

# WARP



WEAVE A REAL PEACE

Volume 18, Number 2

Summer 2011

## Volunteering in Guatemala: Oxlajuj B'atz'

*Pamela Marble*

Oxlajuj B'atz' (OB) was formed in 2004 for educational purposes, by the leaders and members of Mayan Hands and Maya Traditions. During the past year, to be self sustainable and fiscally responsible, OB reorganized



*OB's shop - looking at Rosa's new rug*

and is exploring new directions. Last December they opened a Women's Center in Panajachel and recently launched a new web site where you can find more information about programs, tours, and future direction (<http://oxlajujbatz.org>).

I was attracted to OB because they are using group process to plan their focus, which includes the goal of creating a health resource guide for their members. Here I saw an opportunity to use public health nursing skills to support a client centered effort in an indigenous weaving community. My task was to review existing information about local health resources, begin the update process, create a prototype guide, and field test it for feedback.

Everyone was welcoming and supportive. I was particularly impressed with the dynamic women who staff the OB office. Two directors are from the US and the others are indigenous Maya. Each one speaks two or more languages which enables communica-

tion with close to 500 members, in seven different departments (states). This includes four different Mayan languages as well as Spanish. A respectful, collegial atmosphere pervades the office, punctuated with frequent smiles and periodic bursts of enthusiasm. While I was there a new product, hooked rugs, arrived from one of the village groups. These rugs are colorful, creative, and well crafted - simply gorgeous!

It was a very busy and productive two weeks. Each day I spent four hours working for OB and four hours at Spanish School Jabel Tinamet, a Mayan school where I had studied previously (<http://www.jabeltinamit.com>). They helped arrange a



*Pamela and her Spanish teacher, Florinda*

home stay where Doña Maria provided delicious food and interesting conversation. Now I plan to continue my studies with them via Skype before my return next year for another project with Oxlajuj B'atz'. I'm hooked!

*Pamela is a weaver, retired RN, and former Peace Corps Volunteer (Kenya '70-'72) with a deep respect for indigenous art. Intrigued by OB's website, she sent an inquiry to friend Deborah Chandler. Three months later she was back in Guatemala. Pamela can be reached at [pamelabythesea22@gmail.com](mailto:pamelabythesea22@gmail.com).*

### *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.*

## 2011 Annual Meeting: A Confirmation of Core Values

*In the spirit in which WARP was started, this year's meeting brought together 54 people, from 19 states and four countries, to share and network in Black Mountain, NC. Following is a summary of that event by Gloria Miller, and on page 4, Philis Alvic has compiled websites of the people and organizations who presented at the meeting. Comments from attendees on pages 7-8 give some personal insights into the impact of the meeting. Plan now to attend next year's meeting in Colorado to celebrate WARP's beginning there 20 years ago.*



### **WARP Newsletter**

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

### *Gloria Miller*

This year's annual gathering was marked by a high turnout, a large number of them first time attendees, and the special presence of several young people, some of whom were inspired



*'Start to Finish,' a panel discussing the business of making a living in craft production. Selinda Lanier, local weaver; Beth Ross Johnson, Revitalization of Traditional Cherokee Artisan Resources; Ramona Lossie, Cherokee basket maker; Judi Jetson, Handmade in America; Susan Leveille, educator, weaver, and operator of The Oaks Gallery.*

by WARP members who teach them. First timers included a group of friends who have done textile related travel for many years (see article page 3), as well as many local members from



the Asheville area. Love of textiles is always a common thread and this year it seemed very evident that this interest has led to seeking the sources of exquisite cloth which in turn has led to a strong commitment to try to facilitate a better lifestyle for the artists who make the cloth. The YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain was a perfect venue with comfortable accommodations and meeting space as well as vast grounds where wild turkeys and other wildlife could be spotted.

The craft tradition of western North Carolina and the clay-rich lush green countryside of the Blue Ridge region provided an appropriate backdrop. Just being in an area where galleries, open studios, and craft schools can be found in towns large and small inspires crafters to delve further into their preferred medium or even try a new one.

Formal presentations centered around projects in western North Carolina

that not only preserve and encourage the craft traditions but also provide a boon to local economies where quality art has become a sustainable way to make a living as well as a means of self expression.

Textiles were in abundant supply as personal adornment as well as on display. The marketplace provided a means for members to exhibit and sell products from a variety of projects throughout the world while the silent auction (which for one hour became a raucous live auction) gave members the opportunity to contribute to WARP while reallocating and repurposing treasured cloth and related items. Both events were met with a very generous response as well as delightful exchanges about projects and fiber-related facts.

The business meeting provided an opportunity to especially thank outgoing board members Deborah Brandon and Candy Meacham for their generous contribution of time and energy to the organization over the years and to affirm new board members Teena Jennings and Cindy Lair. With deep thanks to Linda Bowden and all who played a part in the planning of our meeting, departures were filled with hopes of meeting again soon.

*Thanks to Linda Bowden and Philis Alvic for meeting pics.*



*Visiting the Oriole Mill*

# The Traveling Textile Sisters Add North Carolina to List

*Carol Ireland*

Five “Traveling Textile Sisters” attended the WARP meeting in Black Mountain, NC in May. Our journeys started in 2005 when nine women from DE, MD, TX, MI, CA, Canada and Japan came together for a textile tour in Thailand. My sister Mary and I organized this tour because we wanted to know more about Thai dyeing, spinning, and weaving and thought it would be more fun if others joined us. We became very dear friends and since then have traveled to Oaxaca, Peru, Laos, and the US (NM, the Mid Atlantic states, and this year, Appalachia).

On all of our trips, we have sought to learn about the local textiles through the culture and history of the area as well as the craftspeople doing traditional textile crafts. We particularly enjoy mini-workshops: weft ikat tying and indigo dyeing in Thailand, paper making, basket and backstrap weaving in Oaxaca, natural dyeing in Peru, silk weaving in Laos, Navaho rug weaving in NM, and most recently, needle felting and rug braiding in Appalachia. Proud textile crafters ourselves, we also bring samples of our own work to share. Of course, we have shopped everywhere we’ve traveled and brought back treasures reminding us of the wonderful people we have met and the beautiful textiles we have seen.

We are often asked “How did you find each other?” and “How do you make this work?”

In 2004, Mary’s husband met Tawee, a young chemistry graduate student in Thailand

who worked with textile craftspeople in local villages. Tawee agreed to be our guide. Mary and I then felt comfortable sharing our tour idea with a few others--present or former guild members, friends, and a couple of friends of friends whom we “interviewed” by phone. Participants needed to be flexible and avid travelers with experience in developing countries and obviously have a strong interest in learning about textile crafts. Discovered in retrospect, another valuable trait is having worked professionally--among the nine of us are (currently or formerly) a high school chemistry teacher, a college Spanish professor, a sociologist/environmental planner, an engineer, a chemist/information manager, a program manager, a biostatistician, an HR manager, and a professional weaver.

We have done the trips on our own, making connections with local people to help us plan the itineraries and activities and manage logistics. During our time together and afterwards via email, we sort through possible travel destinations and who has what connections. One person has always come forward and agreed to coordinate the next trip. Northern California, Scotland, and Japan are among the possibilities for next year. Networking through WARP should surface all kinds of possibilities for future trips!

*Carol can be contacted at [spinningbiker@comcast.net](mailto:spinningbiker@comcast.net)*

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## Weave A Real Peace

[www.weavearealpeace.org](http://www.weavearealpeace.org)

Membership Information

### 2011 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:

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or join online at  
[www.weavearealpeace.org](http://www.weavearealpeace.org)



# From the WARP Office...

Judy Allen, Administrative Coordinator



Judy Allen

In this issue you can read about the WARP annual meeting in Asheville, however reading cannot compare to actually being there. More than 50 WARP members (including some brand new members) gave themselves the present of attending--to network, buy textiles at Auction, tour galleries, hear from people who actively are involved in the type of work WARP members support, and shop the vendor tables. I hope you will give yourself the gift of attending the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting of WARP's founding next year, in another exciting location--most likely Boulder, Colorado.

Here is an idea for a gift you can give someone else. Giving gifts of memberships is some-

thing that several members did during and following the meeting. I want to share this idea with you to remind you of a simple way to connect your friend(s) to the talented textile artisans making their living by hand around the world. It is easy. All you need do is send \$35 along with your friend's mail and email addresses to [info@weavearealpeace.org](mailto:info@weavearealpeace.org) or to WARP's Oklahoma City address and I will take care of notifying them of your gift and setting up the membership. It will be \$40 if your friend lives outside the US and Canada.

I was fortunate to attend the WARP annual meeting this year with a long time friend and it enhanced my enjoyment of all the things we experienced. If you take action now and get your friend(s) connected with WARP in 2012, you can attend the meeting together too.

## WARP Governing Board

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## A Virtual Tour of WARP's 2011 Annual Meeting

compiled by Philis Alvic

This is a list of websites that gives a virtual taste of the WARP conference in western North Carolina. Included are places visited, the speakers, and a few other topics that came up in discussions. However, no compilation of websites can give the experience of actually attending a conference. Besides seeing wonderful things, having fantastic conversations, and being inspired, we laughed a lot.

**The Oriole Mill - <http://www.theoriolemill.com/>**

This is the mill that those of us that came early were fortunate enough to visit. Bethanne Knudson, the designer, also runs the **Jacquard Center** — <http://www.thejacquardcenter.com/> One can take classes and then have the fabric produced at the mill.

**Southern Highland Craft Guild** — <http://www.southernhighlandguild.org/> On Friday afternoon we toured the galleries and shop of the Guild located on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

**Handmade In America** — <http://www.handmadeinamerica.org> Judy Jetson is the Director of the Creative Economies division. Judi introduced many of us to the concept of a fibershed--a defined area where fibers are produced and then find their way into useful products (<http://fibershed.wordpress.com/>)

She told of Rebecca, who is only wearing garments produced within 150 miles of her home (<http://www.rebeccarburgess.com/fibershed>) A member of the audience inquired about underwear. Judi asked and Rebecca replied "Nice to hear from you... underwear... well.. I don't wear bras... we haven't figured that out. Using Sally's french terry (<http://www.vreseis.com/fabric.html>) for bottoms... it's working out really well so far.

**Revitalization of Traditional Cherokee Artisan Resources** — <http://rtcar.org/about.html> Beth Johnson works with this organization to ensure that Cherokee craftspeople have natural materials to work with. **Qualla** — <http://www.quallaartsandcrafts.com/>--a Native American cooperative in Cherokee, NC.

**Susan Leveille** <http://www.blueridgeheritage.com/node/730> Susan runs a gallery in Dillsboro, NC, and carries on the weaving tradition begun by her great aunt Lucy Morgan, founder of the **Penland School** — <http://www.penland.org/>

**Selinde Landier** — <http://www.selindelanier.blogspot.com/> Selinde's weaving studio is in an old high

*continued on page 5*

# Member Profile

## *Gloria Miller: Sister of Mercy, Nurse, Weaver*

*Candy Meacham*

The more I read of Gloria Miller's answers to my interview questions, the better the story got. I wanted to sit down at the kitchen table and have a real heart to heart with her. Gloria was born and raised in San Francisco, but there was an international flavor to her family in times before it was appreciated. Her mother came from El Salvador, and her father's parents were both Portuguese.

While English was the primary language at home, Gloria remembers some things like numbers, letters, and prayers in Spanish. She grew up hearing a lot of Spanish spoken among her mother's circle of friends. Gloria took Spanish in high school and "ran with it," so that she spoke pretty well by the time she was a senior.

Gloria learned her love of fiber from her mother who did embroidery, knitting, and crochet. When she entered the Sisters of Mercy religious order as a young woman, the sisters expected her to sew for them. So she did! Weaving came much later, five years ago, in fact, when Gloria had time and opportunity during a sabbatical from her nursing career. While she has taken weaving workshops and joined a study group, she is primarily self-taught, enjoying "playing" on her own with

color and weave structures. Recently Gloria wove two altar cloths for the chapel of her hospital, St. Mary's Medical Center in San Francisco. Gloria finds her weaving to be "a contemplative practice connected to the traditions of centuries."

For many years Gloria was the contact person for the Sisters of Mercy living on Lake Titicaca in the Altiplano of Peru where they had started a women's cooperative making knitted goods – mostly finger puppets. Gloria could see the big difference this bit of income made in the lives of these women and their children, especially in helping them to get an education. The group did a lot of activities to foster the empowerment of the young women and give them the courage to use their gifts. Every time she went to Peru, Gloria brought back a suitcase full of goods that the Sisters would then sell. She continues to consult with them on design and color.

Gloria learned of WARP as she learned to weave – from Deborah Chandler's book. She went to her first annual meeting where she felt immediately at home and connected to so many kindred spirits. Contact Gloria via email at [glorsm@aol.com](mailto:glorsm@aol.com)

*Candy Meacham is an educator, a weaver, and a WARP board member. She can be reached at [candy.meacham@earthlink.net](mailto:candy.meacham@earthlink.net).*

## **Virtual Tour of WARP Meeting**

*continued from page 4*

school in Marshall, NC. The videos on her site tell about her work and the revitalization of the community through the arts.

**Western North Carolina Craft Revival Project** — <http://www.wcu.edu/craftrevival/about/index.html> This features the people, objects, and institutions involved in the NC portion of the Appalachian Craft Revival of the early part of the 20th century, including the Cherokee contributions.

**Quilt Trails** – Many people noticed quilt patterns painted on barns throughout the mountain regions. Donna Sue Groves painted the first pattern on her mother's barn in southeastern Ohio and the idea has really taken off. This is a blog about the barn quilt patterns — <http://americanquilttrail.blogspot.com/> Google 'quilt trails' to see several thousand more decorated barns.

### **Raise Money for WARP, Support Guatemalan Weavers, AND Have Fun!**

For several years, two Guatemalan weaving cooperatives, Mayan Hands (MH) and Unidas Para Vivir Mejor (UPAVIM), generously gave WARP members the opportunity to sell their products on a consignment basis (items that don't sell can be returned), with a portion of the "profit" donated to WARP. This was a major source of income for WARP for several years (\$2,371 in 2006). MH and UPAVIM are again offering this great opportunity to members. If a WARP member hosts a sale, 40% of "profits" (minus shipping costs) will go back to WARP. Future newsletters will have more information about how you can organize a sale in your community. If you want more information now about hosting a sale of Mayan Hands and/or UPAVIM products, contact Mary Joan Ferrar-Marsland, [mary@upavim-mayanhands.org](mailto:mary@upavim-mayanhands.org) or at 301/972-5494.

### **WARP 'slide show' now in CD format!**

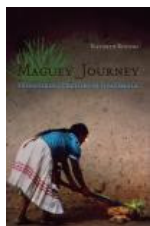
Carole Pierce reports that the WARP slide show is currently in North Carolina, and that a CD of the show is now available! To schedule the WARP presentation in your community, contact Carole at [cpierce@mis.net](mailto:cpierce@mis.net).

## Book Review...

### *Magüey Journey: Discovering Textiles in Guatemala,*

by Kathryn Rousso, Tucson: The University of Arizona Press, 2010.

reviewed by Carol Ventura



Kathryn Rousso was a Peace Corps volunteer in a Maya village in the 1980's. After earning an MFA in fibers in 2001 at UC Davis, she returned to Guatemala to begin Fulbright-funded magüey (agave/ sisal / henequen) field-work.

Written in the first person, the first part reads like a travelogue. The rest of the book documents various production steps and economic realities of the industry. A map of Guatemala identifies most of the places described. Published books, articles, and word of mouth directed Kathryn's journey of discovery to remote towns and villages that were known for magüey cultivating, harvesting, production, and / or sales. Local terms are defined in a helpful glossary. She cites numerous original sources, then documents current practices (if any). Traveling on awful roads, stuffed into the back of pickup trucks or buses that constantly broke down (all of which were loaded beyond belief) were also my experiences as a Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala a decade before Kathryn's arrival.

I've always marveled at the individuality of the distinctive Maya groups - their unique clothing, weaving techniques, and languages - and the way they separate magüey bast fiber from the acidic pulp (including splitting, soaking, roasting, steaming, pounding, burying, sunning, and /or scraping) is also dramatically different!

Reconnecting with the craftsmen I documented in "*Sisal: Its History and Production in Jacaltenango, Guatemala*" (Ars Textrina 1989, 11: 107-152) was wonderful. The book is packed with so much detailed information that I'm surprised it doesn't say that hand and leg-spun fiber (used mostly for bags) is smoother than wheel-spun fiber because the stands are spun parallel to one another. The randomly ordered fiber fed to the wheel produces a prickly cord that is plied into rope. Also omitted were the split-plied backstraps (for weaving) and shorter tumplines made in San Andres Huista, Jacaltenango.

If you're interested in seeing and reading about who produces magüey products, how it's done, and where to find it in Guatemala, then you need to read this book.

*Carol is an Art Historian at Tennessee Technological University and fiber artist. She can be reached at [CVentura@tntech.edu](mailto:CVentura@tntech.edu)*

### 2011 Alice Brown Memorial Scholarship Recipient Emolyn Liden

I truly appreciated being invited to the WARP conference 2011. I loved that some WARP members have been involved for years and that the organization continues to grow. I enjoyed meeting hard working individuals who were genuine about their love for fiber and their dedication to their projects. I quickly noticed how creative and supportive the members were. Passion comes from picking our battles. I loved that these women shared the same "battle" as I - that we can all play a hand

at assisting people around the world by supporting their uniqueness, creativity, and their passion for a better life. The WARP conference was rejuvenating and it got my creative wheels turning. I felt, more than ever, that I am on the right track in terms of my own interests and am so happy that there are people, like those in WARP, in the fiber community."

*Emolyn is a freelance writer, ardent fiber practitioner, and traveler, living in Asheville, NC. Contact her at [emliden@gmail.com](mailto:emliden@gmail.com)*

### 2010 ABM Scholarship Recipient Kelsey Wiskirchen

The members of WARP are inspiring, energizing, and incredibly generous. They are so strong and have accomplished so much— as artists, as teachers, researchers, writers, as humanitarians. This is the first time in my life that I have felt so easily and instantly connected to a large group of people. I cannot possibly spend a weekend with WARP members with-

out feeling energized and personally obligated (in a good way) to exert as much positive energy as possible in my life. I will look forward to seeing you next year!

*Kelsey is a grad student at Arizona State University. She volunteered with Dorinda Dutcher's project in Bolivia last summer and this summer is in South Africa, staying with the Mapusha Weaving Cooperative. Contact her at [kelsey.viola.wiskirchen@gmail.com](mailto:kelsey.viola.wiskirchen@gmail.com)*

## Thanks to WARP Donors

### Scholarship Fund

Susan Weltman  
Brooklyn, NY

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Guatemala City, Guatemala

### Endowment Fund

Linda Bowden  
Deborah Chandler





*Textile Techniques from Around the World*  
Deborah Brandon



Deb Brandon

## India: Leheriya and Mothra

Leheriya is a tie-dye technique used to create colorful patterns of diagonal stripes or zigzags across lengths of fabric. Mothra, builds on leheriya, forming checkered patterns.

Leheriya and mothra are practiced in the state of Rajasthan in northwestern India, and are used for turbans (*pagdi*), saris, and shawls (*dupatta*). In order to ensure dye penetration the fabrics of choice are fine silk or cotton.

In leheriya, the fabric is rolled on the diagonal, from one corner to the opposite selvedge, creating a tube, which is then tightly tied at intervals and placed in a dye bath. Since the dye cannot penetrate the ties, after dyeing, when the ties are undone, they leave rings of undyed fabric, and when the fabric is unrolled the rings open up forming diagonal stripes across the fabric. If instead of rolling the fabric, it is folded like a fan across the width of the fabric and then tied, the undyed rings lead to zigzags or wavy patterns. The width and spacing of the ties determine the width of the stripes and their density.

Mothra refers to fabrics with checkered patterns that are produced by starting with leheriya dyeing, then unrolling (or unfolding) the dyed bundle, rolling on the opposite diagonal, retying, and dyeing it once more. The den-

sity of the ties determines the size of the undyed pattern, producing anywhere from grain-like specks to larger squares.

By successively untying, refolding or rolling, retying, and placing in different dye baths, one can add to the variety of patterns by creating stripes in different colors using leheriya or by forming tartans using mothra. Additional variations on color combinations can be created by replacing a dunk in a dye bath with bleaching.

### Resources:

**World Textiles** by John Gillow and Bryan Sentence, Thames & Hudson

**Handmade in India: A Geographic Encyclopedia of Indian Handicrafts**,

edited by Aditi

Ranjan and M.P. Ranjan, Abbeville Press  
**Shuttle, Spindle, and Dyepot Magazine**,  
issue #138, Spring 2004.

<http://tinyurl.com/3zz6dr9>

<http://tinyurl.com/3j5tc7j>

<http://tinyurl.com/3rg9kul>

**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](mailto:brandon@andrew.cmu.edu)**

## Annual Meeting Participants Share Impressions

*Great to see many of the wonderful women I look forward to seeing but also GREAT to meet so many new and interesting women.* Susan Weltman

*Sunday morning during the business meeting I looked across the room and saw Adrienne [Sloane] and thought, "Oh, I haven't gotten to talk with her much at all." Then I realized it was a comfort just to see her there along with so many others. This is what WARP is about - the comfort of old friends with whom you could pick up a ten-year-old conversation and both be immediately on the same page!* Judy Newland

*...as a first timer at WARP, I must tell all of you that this conference was fantastic and eye-opening for me, and I began several conversations I hope will continue for a long, long time!* Judi Jetson

*I feel like I finally met people that are having the same conversation and left glowing, wanting to share it with others. Thanks!* Katie Simmons

*The WARP conference is the ideal first stop on my annual US visit. The past year's triumphs, worries, and concerns can spew forth uncensored and unrevised upon a knowing, interested audience who provide insightful feedback. It was gratifying to learn about the revitalization of crafts in Appalachia. One doesn't have to travel to the four corners of the earth to become a "fiber activist."* Dorinda Dutcher, Independencia, Bolivia

*I was so impressed by how much WARP impacted Dorinda Dutcher's project in Bolivia. This really reflects the mission of WARP. And how special it was to have Dorinda report on this activity.* Dana Cadwell

*I'm still on a high after experiencing my first WARP annual meeting. I feel so honored to be in the company of such amazing women who are making a tremendous difference in the lives of women who create in fiber around the world. The presentations were thought-provoking and*

**continued on page 8**

## New Members

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## Special Section: 2010 Annual Report/ 2011 Annual Meeting

### 2010 in Review

**Membership** – At the end of 2010 WARP had 268 members (2 less than last year). Of that number, we welcomed 41 new members. Most of them joining from January-March, and in all other months except August.

**WARP Board** – Board terms ended for Adrienne Sloane and Cheryl Musch. Linda Bowden and Jackie Abrams were elected to the openings for three-year terms. The Board elected the following officers: President–Deborah Brandon, Vice-President–Candy Meacham, Treasurer–Susan Davis, Secretary–Kate Keegan.

**Administrative Coordinator**–Judy Allen completed her first full year as Administrative Coordinator. Judy, with the assistance of a programmer, has developed a way to communicate with all WARP members by group email as well as make the WARP Membership Directory available on line in a protected part of the website.

**Annual Meeting** – Members from 14 states, Kenya, Bolivia, and Guatemala gathered at the Spirit in the Desert Retreat Center in Carefree, AZ. The Alice Brown Memorial Scholarship winner, Kelsey Wiskirchen, Masters student at ASU, shared her talent and enthusiasm for creating contemporary textiles that enhance the environment. We visited the Heard Museum, Scottsdale galleries, and heard from several Native American craftspeople about their work, as well as Judy Newland's talk about her work in preservation. Judy deserves much thanks for her help with local arrangements.

**Newsletter** –This past year brought exciting developments to the WARP Newsletter. Editor Linda Temple assisted by Cindy Lair researched options for a format taking less postage and having the capability for color photos. These changes went into effect with the Summer 2010 issue and have received many compliments. Thanks are due to both Linda and Cindy for making these improvements in one of our most valuable resources.

**Slide Show** – The WARP slide show, in a CD format, had nine showings in 2010. We owe thanks to Carole Pierce who continues to book and send out the slide show.

**Hand to Hand Initiative** - Hand to Hand is a new initiative that was instituted at the Annual Meeting last year. The idea behind this initiative is to link fiber-centered organizations in the US and abroad for their mutual benefit and support. Board Members Candy Meacham, Susan Davis, and Jackie Abrams have been working diligently this year to identify groups who need support and through articles in the WARP newsletter are sharing this information to interest members in getting involved.

**Thank you** to all the members of WARP who actively give of their time. The range of involvement is wide – board members, website work, articles for the newsletter, arrangements for our annual meetings, ABM scholarship committee, and many other tasks that allow for the business of WARP to continue smoothly.

### Annual Meeting Participants Share Impressions

*continued from page 7*

*inspiring and the discussions were full of information that has my mind spinning! Thank you all for opening my eyes to the possible. You have taken impossible situations and made them possible. You are my heroes. Suzy Hoskansan*

*Once again, an annual WARP meeting leaves me delighted with seeing old friends and making new ones. The variety and breadth of the interests and knowledge of our members is astonishing. And it was my first time in NC. To encounter the culture and history of this wonderful area left me feeling greatly enriched. Books which I have owned for years, such as Handicrafts of the Southern Highlands, by Allen Eaton have newly come alive for me. Marilyn Anderson*

*This was the first WARP meeting that I've attended after being a member almost from the beginning. It was very inspiring to meet so many women interested in helping textile artists across the globe. I came away with the*

*knowledge of the many different ways we can make a difference. I enjoyed the program and the activities in Asheville and Black Mountain (an area I'd never visited). Some time for small group sharing and conversation would be useful. Hope to see you again in Colorado, Margaret Zeps*

*Aside from the meeting, what I loved most was on the drive between Charlotte and Black Mountain, patches of flaming red poppies along the highways. Stunning, breath taking, and also adorable when mixed with other colors. Deborah Chandler*

*This meeting was exciting for many reasons - so many participants doing remarkable work, so many choices for the Auction, so many ideas from the speakers and participants in their programs, and I could go on and on. This was my third Annual Meeting and they keep getting more inspirational each time. It was also great to see people from previous meetings and meet new members as well. Judy Allen*



# Special Section: 2010 Annual Report/ 2011 Annual Meeting



## WARP Annual Business Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2011 - Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain, NC

The meeting was called to order by Deb Brandon at 9:05.

Minutes from the 2010 annual meeting were handed out. Susan Weltman moved to approve minutes. Gloria Miller seconded. Passed.

**The Annual Meeting 2012** - Cindy Lair presented plans for the coming year, the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, to be held in Boulder, Colorado – taking it back to its' roots. Cindy is coordinating, and is open to suggestions. Maybe Maine in 2013?

**The Newsletter** - Cindy presented, with the request that we all help Linda Temple, our newsletter editor, by submitting memories of earlier meetings, revisiting the history of WARP, the early projects, and how it evolved. Linda thanked people who have written articles, particularly those who write regular columns. Contributions are always welcome; the copy deadline dates are listed in most newsletters. Linda requested that people send her one or two sentences about this meeting, along with photos. The deadline for the next newsletter is June 3. There was a great deal of appreciation expressed for Linda and the job that she is doing. It was reported that the board has voted for Linda a 'lifetime appointment.'

The board will be looking at the membership information sheets that include a listing of the skills of our members.

**Election of board members** - Candy Meacham and Deb Brandon are ending their terms. Nominees are Teena Jennings and Cindy Lair. No other nominees were offered from the floor. Philis Alvic moved that the slate be accepted. Carole Pierce seconded. Unanimous, by acclamation.

The new Queen is Linda Bowden

The Princess is Susan Schaefer Davis

Treasurer – Kate Keegan

Secretary – Jackie Abrams

### **The Year in Review**

The report was distributed and presented by Deb.

Deb added extra thanks to:

Linda Temple for the newsletter

Carol Pierce for coordinating the slide show

Sarah Saulson for coordinating the scholarship and nominating committees

Linda Bowden for arranging this meeting

Judi Jetson for helping to organize local people

Teena Jennings as marketplace coordinator

Judy Allen and Kate Keegan for financial reports

**Financial Report** – The financial report for 2010 was handed out and presented by Susan. We are running at a deficit, due in part to some extra expenses in 2010: hiring an accountant to file 2007 IRS report, the (hopefully one-time) website set-up expense. Income from dues, our main source of income, has been going down. Deb Chandler suggested we each buy and gift a membership. The board is exploring other ways of making investments – that are stable, profitable, and socially responsible. Susan welcomes suggestions.

To create greater financial stability, the budget for next year (2011) will be created before this calendar year ends.

**Hand to Hand** – Susan presented the update. Jackie, Susan, Candy, and Judy have been involved. Several groups have expressed interest: Dorinda Dutcher's group in Bolivia, Janice Knausenberger's four groups in Kenya, a group in Thailand. A questionnaire was developed. Dorinda's story was told in both the newsletter and the website, without response. We then requested briefer and more concise information from them; Janice's stories were shared in the most recent newsletter.

**Slide show** - Cindy presented. Cindy, Carole, Susan, Jackie will work on updating the slide show, using digital images to promote Hand to Hand. Images will be included of the process. Judy Newland will help compress videos into this presentation. A request will be sent out for images to include. There is the possibility of selling them for \$20 on CD or thumb drive. We will investigate the legalities of using Putamayo music.

**UPAVIM/Mayan Hands** – Mary Joan Ferrera-Marsland presented. UPAVIM Crafts is a women's cooperative on the outskirts of Guatemala City, with the purpose of improving their community. They have started clinics and schools, scholarship and tutoring programs. The craft business primarily benefits schools. Mary Joan works as independent contractor; she does distribution and marketing for them. They are urban non-weavers.

Deb Chandler explained Mayan Hands. Mary Joan does the same distribution and marketing for them. MH

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## Special Section: 2010 Annual Report/ 2011 Annual Meeting

### *Weave A Real Peace* Financial Report - 2010

WARP Checking Account - 2010  
1/1/2010 - 12/31/2010

<u>Income</u>	
Annual Meeting Fees	\$ 8,128.00
Donations	1,234.00
Dues	8,844.83
Interest Inc	183.80
Meeting Scholarship Donations	230.00
Membership Directory Paper	10.00
Silent Auction	713.00
Vendor Fees Annual Meeting	199.50
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 19,543.13</b>

<u>Expense</u>	
Accounting Fee	\$ 1,325.00
Annual Meeting Expense	
2010	6,431.23
2011	750.00
Annual Meeting Refund	0.00
Bank Charge	70.00
Board Meeting Expense	2,625.64
HGA Membership	0.00
Mail Service	237.48
Membership Directory	830.98
Envelopes	55.22
Postage	391.26
Printing	384.50
Misc	1.70
Newsletter	2594.96
Postage	985.95
Printing	1,609.01
Office Supplies	83.74
Pay Pal Fees	156.68
Postage	316.73
Slide Show Expenses	63.20
Staff Salary*	6,600.00
Technology/Software	440.00
Web site	450.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>22,977.34</b>
 <u>Net Income</u>	 <b>\$ (3,434.21)</b>

Account Summaries

<u>Checking - BOA</u>	
12/31/2009	1,612.06
12/31/2010	1,701.00
 <u>Savings - BOA</u>	
12/31/2009	35,768.78
12/31/2010	26,943.43
<b>Total Balance - 12/31/10</b>	<b>\$ 28,644.43</b>

Endowment Fund  
1/1/10 - 12/31/10

<u>Income</u>	
Interest earned	\$ 0.00
**Deposit	3,408.00
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>3,408.00</b>
 1/1/10 Balance	 \$ 20,834.25
 Net Income	 3,408.00
<b>**12/31/09 Balance</b>	<b>\$ 24,245.42</b>

#### Cumulative Totals FY 2010

Account Balances	\$ 28,644.43
Endowment Balances	\$ 24,245.42
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 52,889.85</b>

\* Note: Admin Coord salary not paid in 2/10 for work done in 1/10 so budget shows \$6600 expense instead of \$7200 for 2010.

\*\* Note: 10% of member dues are added to endowment fund. In early 2010 \$3229 was moved from checking to endowment to make up for 2007, 2008, and 2009 when funds were not moved..

## Hand to Hand: Moving Forward

Susan Shaefer Davis



At the Annual Meeting we discussed progress with Hand to Hand. Groups in Bolivia, Kenya, and Thailand have expressed interest and two have been described in past Newsletters. However neither has received offers of assistance with the needs they listed. We will continue to evaluate and adapt the pro-

gram, including the possibility of starting a relationship with an exchange of e-mails, photos, and/or PowerPoint presentations between two groups. One member spoke of the people in her guild; they are not business or marketing people so wondered how they could relate to the groups profiled in the Newsletter. Building a relationship would be a good starting point, allowing groups to get to know each other.

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### Annual Business Meeting Minutes

*continued from page 9*

works with nine different rural communities. They are weavers, a little more high end.

Mary Joan oversees consignment sales for WARP. Kathleen Balo is the staff member in charge of these sales. Items are sent out priced, ready to sell, tailored to individual group needs. If a WARP member hosts a sale, 40% of the profits go back to WARP (minus shipping costs).

#### **Other Business**

Philis Alvic suggested a longer meeting, would like more discussion.

Susan presented information about a 9-day tour to Morocco specifically designed for WARP members. It could include Fez and Marrakesh, hands-on rug weaving, carding,

spinning, and dyeing. Carol Ireland and Susan Weltman gave testimonials for a trip taken three years ago with Susan. Judy reported that the silent auction has so far made about \$1753.50 (last year was \$800)!

Katie Simmons volunteered to do the social networking – a blog, website links, Facebook, Ravelry, etc.

WARP brochures are available from Judy Allen or Sarah Saulson. They are being reprinted.

Kate moved to adjourn. Many people seconded. 10:45.

*Minutes submitted by Jackie Abrams,  
June 2011*

### **More New Members**

Jenny Bergstresser  
109 North Main St  
Nazareth, PA 18064  
610/597-6603  
jpbbergstresser@gmail.com

Mary Ann Zelinsky  
355 Toll Branch Road  
Johnson City, TN 37601  
864/293-6697  
marzelweaving@yahoo.com

Betsy Renfrew  
1907 Bradford St  
Greensboro, NC 27405  
336/272-5647  
betwyrenfrew@triad.rr.com

Margaret Leininger  
5151 E. Guadalupe Rd.,  
#2031  
Phoenix, AZ 85044  
708/203-6843  
margaret.leininger@asu.edu

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## Travel Opportunities...

### **TSA Study Tour to Korea**

September 15 – 26, 2011

TSA Study Tour Leader: Karen Searle

For more information, go to [www.textilesociety.org/events\\_tours.htm](http://www.textilesociety.org/events_tours.htm).

### **Textile Tour of Bali & Yogyakarta, Indonesia, with Threads of Life & Jalan Jalan Asia September 19 – October 3, 2011**

For more information, go to [threadsoflife.com](http://threadsoflife.com)

### **TSA Study Tour to South India**

October 23 – November 6, 2011

TSA Study Tour Leader: Sandra Evenson

For more information, go to [www.textilesociety.org/events\\_tours.htm](http://www.textilesociety.org/events_tours.htm)

### New Director at FTF



Renee Bowers has been named the next Executive Director of the Fair Trade Federation, taking on the role that Carmen Iezzi has filled. Renee is inter-

ested in WARP and has agreed to write two columns a year about what is happening in the Fair Trade world. Look for Renee's debut column in the Fall issue of the newsletter.



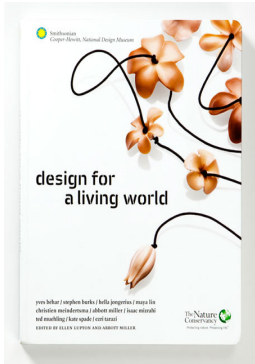


**Weave a Real Peace**  
 3102 Classen Boulevard  
 PMB 249  
 Oklahoma City, OK 73118

## 2011 Annual Meeting Issue

### Design for a Living World Exhibit and Book Focus on Sustainability

*Design for a Living World* is a traveling exhibition featuring objects made from sustainable, natural materials from around the world. The Nature Conservancy invited ten designers to create new objects



from sustainable materials that support, rather than deplete, endangered places.



*Processing jipijapa*



Created by ten leading designers, including Isaac Mizrahi, Maya Lin, and Yves Behar, each commission tells a unique story about these regions, the life-cycle of materials, and the power of conservation and design.

The exhibition opened in May 2009 at the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum and will travel to four additional US markets, including the Field Museum in Chicago (May 13-November 13) and the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix, AZ (January 14-April 1, 2012).

A book is also available from the Nature Conservancy, with photos by Ami Vitale.

One of the designers with kate spade, worked with a weaver in Galilea, Bolivia, to create handbags from the locally available palm fiber, jipijapa.

More information is available on the Nature Conservancy's website at [www.nature.com](http://www.nature.com) (type Design for a Living World in the search box).

