WGRI Meeting Minutes 11/04/2023

In attendance:
Leslie, Mahler, Elizabeth Springett, Jayne Richmond, Jaimee Roberts, Cheryl Mincone, Margaret Moone, Donna LaVallee, Gretchen White, Sarah Saulson, Norma Smayda, Cathy English, Sally Rianhard, Marty Cavanagh, Mary Sherman, Cat Weeks, Joyce Fennell, Claudia Iannuccilli

President's opening, Donna LaVallee:

Thank you to Leslie Mahler for offering to take on the job of Membership. Our name tags are all organized, as well as our membership list.

There is no Treasury Report to deliver this month, since Suzanne is out of the country. Good for her!

Vice Pres/Programing, Jaimee Roberts:

"Fragment Festivity!" Our Dec meeting will be dedicated to honoring and celebrating longtime members who have been our mentors. We will be reaching out to encourage them to join us. Please think about driving an honoree to the event.

Additionally, make a gift for the exchange using a textile fragment. Include a quote about life, celebration, reflection etc.

We'll be hosting and April Workshop with Sara Saulson, Thurs 4/4 & Fri 4/5. "Painted Warps on the Loom". It will be held at the Clark Library in Carolina. More to come re: cost, etc.

Dorothy Liebes Cooper Hewitt exhibit field trip is happening this upcoming Weds 11/08. There's still room if you'd like to join. Trains leave from Providence or Kingston.

Membership, Leslie Mahler:

The name tags have been reconciled and new labels have been made for our newer members. It's ok if you bring yours home from the meeting, just be sure to bring it back.

A question put to the attending members was whether or not a booklet directory is needed, since the spreadsheet is far less expense to print and less time consuming to manage. Benefits were discussed of each option. A few felt as though the booklet is a nice record for archival purposes, especially since it includes documentation of the program, officers, etc. Gretchen White offered to oversee the responsibility of formatting and printing the directory. Thank you Gretchen!

Leslie has stepped forward to look into our archival record regarding membership. The goal will be to consolidate the directories of the past and have them accessible. Does anyone know the GoogleDocs password or other helpful information to support this process? If so, please reach out to Leslie or Donna.

If anyone does not want their information listed in the upcoming 2023/2024 directory, let Donna or Leslie know.

Volunteer help:

Food - Urgently, we need someone who can coordinate refreshments for the December meeting. This is our annual party, so it would be nice to have a proper celebration. Beyond this, a food chair is needed if we'd like coffee/tea or snacks at our meetings. We need to purchase an electric teapot too.

Technology - Who is tech savvy? We need people who can spearhead meeting tech set up for projector, zoom, etc. Cathy English has been generous with her knowhow, but it can't fall to one person.

Nominating Committee - Who can spearhead finding nominations for WGRI's 2024/'25 board? It may be an easy job, depending on how many current board members are willing to stay on.

Gowdy Reed Order:

Gretchen White is taking an order for our guild. Reach out to her soon if you'd like to add to it. The specifications for noting the dimensions are on their website. The process will be; Gretchen will send Jim the group order for pricing, collect the checks (made out to WGRI) and send one payment from the guild. Heads up - there's an order without a name attached. If Gretchen hasn't confirmed your request, please contact her.

Happenings:

Rhode Island Weaving Center (RIWC) Workshops:
The upcoming workshops are, Visible Mending and Kaleidoscope Origami. The Origami class is being taught by Leslie Mahler. Another guild member, Elizabeth Springett, will be teaching an Inkle Loom series (class may be full)

Kay Sekimachi: Weaving Traditions Online Exhibit by the SFO Museum. Donna will share the link for all to view.

Dorothy Liebes Exhibit Virtual option via Cooper Hewitt: If you can't make the in-person trip to NYC, there is a virtual option to experience the exhibit. Friday 11/17 there's a zoom presentation. Please see the website for details.

RISD:
Sensing Fashion - in person exhibit where designer garments become the subject, an immersive experience. Starting in February

Dine Textiles - Current exhibit of the Navajo textiles along with their cultural history and meanings.

Fleet Library, Providence - "Pockets" History of How We Keep Things Close - RISD lecture by Hannah Carlson about her new book

MFA, Boston:
“Fashioned by Sargent” - Blended exhibit of Sargent’s paintings and garments of the day. Sheds light on the relationship between fashion and his creative practice.

Show & Tell

Margaret Moone gave everyone a reminder that The North Kingstown Free Library has a vast archived collection of handwoven samples by RI Weavers. She presented examples of the notebooks and contents.

Margaret also modeled her open knit topper, where she used metal yarn. It had an interesting effect when the textile was gathered - it has memory!

November Presenter:
Donna LaVallee “Personal woven journey and Anni Albers”

Donna shared her textiles and her weaving journey from Rhode Island to San Francisco, Japan, Massachusetts and Connecticut. Her experience included a position as a Textile Science Teacher at URI, and internship at the Cooper Hewitt Museum assembling their Anni Albers exhibit. She detailed her time working on the exhibit and shared her own body of weaving work and the context in which the pieces were made.