

**MidAtlantic Fiber Association
Representatives Assembly
May 6, 2017**

The spring meeting of the representatives of the MidAtlantic Fiber Association was held on Saturday, May 6 at 1:30 p.m. in the Dining Hall at the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival.

Board Members in Attendance

Elisa Eiger, President

Charlene Marietti, First VP\Communications

Donna Mentzer, 2nd VP\Conference

Marla Campbell, Treasurer

Karen Miller, Secretary

Guild Representatives in Attendance

Marla Campbell, Albemarle

Handweavers Guild, Whirling
Whorls

Carla Brenner, Canaan Weavers

Donna Mentzer, Central Penn Guild of
Handweavers, Lancaster
Spinners & Weavers

Pat Capogrossi, Chesapeake Weavers

Karen Miller, Fiber Guild of Blue Ridge

Carol Ireland, FiberGuild, Harmony
Weaving Guild

Diane Baumgartner, Foothills Spinners
and Weavers Guild

Debbie Cummings, Frances Irwin
Handweavers, Jockey Hollow
Weavers Guild, Philadelphia
Guild of Handweavers

Chris Field-Funk, Handweavers of
Bucks County

Lori Wall, Morgantown Fiber Guild

Charlene Marietti, New York Guild of
Handweavers

Patty Chrisman, North Country Spinners

Elisa Eiger, Palisades Guild of Spinners
and Weavers

Helena Valentine, South Jersey Guild of
Spinners and Weavers

Cecile Stiner, Susquehanna Valley
Spinners and Weavers Guild

Diane Beier, Third Star Fiber Guild

Melissa Messina, Third Star Fiber Guild

Marion Flint, Triangle Weavers, Inc

Barbara Richter, Warped Weavers Guild

Meg Lundsager, Waterford Weavers
Guild

Deborah Herrin, Weavers Guild of
Greater Baltimore

CALL TO ORDER

President Elisa Eiger called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Representatives of 25 guilds were present.

APPROVAL of MINUTES

The minutes of the Reps Meeting of September 27, 2016 were approved as posted.

OFFICERS and COMMITTEE REPORTS

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Marla Campbell reported on the April 30, 2017 balance sheet. We have assets of \$321,620.61, including \$1,589.50 in the Ellen Dorosh Fund, \$925.15 in the Allen Fannin Fund, \$11.75 from Amazon Smile and \$355 in non-specified donations. We are carrying \$191,557.02

in liabilities – primarily for the conference, but also \$1045 for part 2 of the 2017 guild grants and \$1100 for part 2 of the 2016 guild grants. Our equity is \$130,063.59.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Elisa thanked our Nominating Committee, consisting of:

- Suanne Pasquarella (Buffalo Weavers Guild, Rochester Weavers Guild, NY)
- Mickie Schneider (Central Pennsylvania Weavers Guild, PA)
- Leah Haymaker (Fiber Arts Network, WV)

Since none of the committee could be present, Elisa introduced the slate for the 2017-19 MAFA Board:

President: Karen Miller (Foothills Spinners & Weavers, Fiber Guild of Blue Ridge, VA)
First Vice-President\Communications: Charlene Marietti (New York Guild of Handweavers, South Jersey Guild of Spinners and Weavers, NJ)
Second Vice-President\Conference: Donna Mentzer (Central Penn Guild of Handweavers, Lancaster Spinners & Weavers, PA)
Treasurer: Marla Campbell (Albemarle Handweavers, Foothills Spinners & Weavers, Whirling Whorls, VA)
Secretary: Joan Martin (Chautauqua County Weavers Guild, PA)

Elections will be held at the conference, at the Reps Meeting – probably a breakfast meeting on Saturday morning. Exact time and location are TBD.

Elisa asked for one more volunteer to join the Nominating Committee. Currently standing for the next committee term are:

- Leah Haymaker (Fiber Arts Network, WV)
- Sally Orgren (Jockey Hollow Weavers, Frances Irwin Handweavers, NJ)

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Communications Chair Charlene Marietti reported that volunteers have been busy on social media platforms: Facebook, Pinterest, Ravelry, Weavolution, and Twitter. She called for additional volunteers to help monitor and feed the platforms. She also asked reps for any additional suggestions for local advertising, and to help get the word out that there are many activities for Day Trippers at the conference.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Conference Chair Donna Mentzer reported that we have 385 students signed up for this year's conference, with 37 classes running and 31 vendors in the Marketplace.

New this year – guild members who can't attend the entire conference, but who would like to visit the Marketplace and attend some of the activities are welcome to stay overnight in the dorms on Friday and/or Saturday night. Cost will be \$55 per night, and meals can be individually purchased in the Dining Hall. Activities taking place outside of classes include: Marketplace with 31 vendors, numerous Bobbin Boy demonstrations of antique equipment and fiber techniques (and free repair of equipment), as well as other demonstrations by vendors, Friday afternoon knit-in, Saturday afternoon spin-in, Friday night "Shop 'til You Drop" with spinning

games and instructor book signings, Saturday afternoon presentation of “Sheep and Wool in Song and Story” and Saturday evenings Open Studio tour.

The group voted on which badge holder they preferred, and Donna will try to get that one.

Donna also expressed appreciation to her team:

For the website – Dave Banks, Charlene Marietti, Karen Miller and graphics designer Tina Bliss,

For organizing the volunteers – Elizabeth Ator,

For handling the money – Marla Campbell,

For handling registration – Pat Capogrossi,

For handling everything to do with instructors and classes – Judy Donovan,

For organizing the sample exchange – Barbara Fornoff,

For organizing the Fashion Show and Showcase – Carol Ireland,

....and her team thanked Donna for handling all the vendor issues.

GRANTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Grants Committee Chair Carol Wood was unable to be present, so committee member Marla Campbell reported on the grants awarded for 2017:

- Warped Weavers Guild (MD) - \$500 to help purchase a loom that will be used in public demonstrations at the Maryland State Fair and Harford County Libraries.
- Rochester Weaving Guild (NY) - \$1,590 to help support a weaving workshop with Wendy Garrity involving the local Bhutanese community.

Marla also reported that four fellowships would be awarded at the conference.

Elisa expressed her appreciation to departing chair Carol Wood (Southern Tier Fiberarts Guild, NY), and welcomed new chair Mary Strouse (Potomac Fiber Arts Guild, DC)

Elisa also encouraged guilds to apply for the grants. The grant proposals need to include an element of public outreach. Applications are due in January.

VOLUNTEERS

Karen Miller noted that in addition to the volunteers that had been mentioned, we will need many volunteers at the conference. One job doesn't always get many volunteers: the Workshop Building Guides, who help students to unload looms and teachers to unload supplies and help them both find their classrooms. Elizabeth Ator, Volunteer Coordinator will be sending out a Sign-Up sheet for specific sign-ups soon – but if you haven't volunteered or want to be sure you are on her list, contact her at volunteercoordinator@mafafiber.org. (She can also use help from those “Day Trippers” who aren't attending classes.)

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Miller

Recording Secretary