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Words of Wisdom

Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep. – Scott Adams

OOTB Program Lineup 2019 – 2020

August 19, 2019, Meeting: Vacation Postcards

September 7-8, 2019, Show: Almonte Fibrefest

September 16, 2019, Meeting:

September 23, 2019, Playdate: a day to play, learn, share and have fun

October 21, 2019, Meeting:

October 28, 2019, Playdate: TBD.

November 1-30, 2019, Show: Stittsville Library Show – Recycled, Reborn

November 18, 2019, Meeting:

November 25, 2019, Playdate. Frances Taylor, silk scarf dyeing

Note No Meeting in December

January 20, 2020, Meeting:

January 27, 2020. Playdate: Loree Tannett. Getting to know your sewing machine.

February 17, 2020, Meeting:

March 16, 2020, Meeting

March 23, 2020. Playdate: TBD

April 20, 2020, Meeting

May 18, 2020, Meeting

May 25, 2020, Playdate: Juanita Sauve. “the medium is the message”

OOTB August 2019 Meeting

Are you a deltiologist? Don't know? Well, if you collect and study postcards you are. According to sources, the first postcard was sent in 1840; that same postcard sold for about \$7000 in 2002. Now that's an incentive to make postcards! - which is the theme for our August OOTB meeting. Create a postcard in your favourite medium and tell the group what you were up to this summer.

Today, postcards are intended to be mailed and to express some thought or sentiment to the intended recipient. But early on, in the USA, post cards were just a card with no pictures or drawings; in the 19th century, they were mostly promotional in nature produced by companies as advertising or announcements for events. Then they became a medium for individuals to send a quick and cheap message (but one could only write on the front of the card), which evolved by the 20th century into the “split back” postcard we all know. In Europe, postcards were mailed in envelopes. Until the early 20th century, postcards were mostly drawings, with romantic and bucolic scenes. This changed to accommodate photographs, political satire and cartoons and more risqué subjects of nude women. Some post cards are solely for bureaucratic uses: return postcards, acknowledgement of receipt, delivery notice. But these are not so interesting for fibre artists!

So, bring your cards to the August 19th OOTB meeting and tell us about your summer. What will you do with your card next? Mail it to a friend? Make more and create a postcard album? Donate it to Fibre Fling to raise money for charity?

Call for volunteers and art!

OOTB will have an exhibit table at the Almonte Fibrefest event happening on September 7th and 8th. Thank you to those who have already offered to volunteer. We are still looking for three more members to help with the set-up between 1:00 and 4:00 pm on Friday, September 6th and two more members to help take the display apart on Sunday September 8th between 4:00 and 5:00 pm. Please contact Kathy Lajeunesse at

mklajeun@gmail.com or Dianne.vandenbrekel@gmail.com if you are available and willing to help.

We also need offers of artwork from members to display as examples of our creativity and many talents! Art pieces must be brought to the August meeting. Contact Debbie Rubin at debbie2rubin@gmail.com or Kathy at mklajeun@gmail.com if you have any questions about contributing art.



Stittsville Library Show - November 2019

OOTB will have a small show again at the Stittsville Library for the month of November 2019. Thank you to those who have already let me know they are participating. The theme this year is "Recycled, Reborn". For this theme I would like you to use recycled materials. You could use something like used tea bags, plastic bags, papers, recycled fabrics, scraps of thread etc. It would be nice if your piece was made of 100% recycled materials but if this isn't possible please make the main design elements of the piece with recycled materials. We will start with one piece per person for now until I get an idea of how many pieces I have. Please note that the wall is white at the library so make sure the background of your piece is not white in order for it to show well.

Pieces can be any size as long as no side is longer than 24 inches. And you can use any technique as long as

there is some fibre included. Please have your piece ready to hang with wire if it is hard mounted or a rod if it is soft mounted. No alligator clips please because they don't hang well at the library. The artwork on the wall will be hanging by nylon cords so very heavy pieces are not suitable to hang but a regular weight large canvas is fine. Three dimensional pieces are also a possibility because we have a glass display case. Pieces are to be brought to the October OOTB meeting. I will send out an email in October asking for information for the label cards to be put on your work.

I will need a few volunteers to help with hanging up the show on November 1st and for takedown November 30th. This year we will be hanging up and taking down in the morning, exact time to be determined. It would be nice if you have a new piece but if you have one that is already in this theme, that will do too. *Remember that if you make a new piece you will be able to display it at Fibre Fling in April 2020 too.* So, start thinking now about what you want to contribute. And if you already have something in mind you can let me know. I look forward to seeing what we can put together for this theme!

If you have any questions email me at connietb@sympatico.ca

Connie ten Bruggenkate

Playdates

Three playdates are planned for each session at a cost of \$10 per playdate or \$25 when you register for a full session. Members of OOTB are welcome. The Playdates are held at Kitchissippi United Church on Island Park Drive. The day runs from 10am to about 4pm. Registration is now open, you can register at a meeting or by contacting Lynn Keeler anottawagirl@yahoo.ca. A playdate brings members together to learn, share, encourage and get inspired. Spending a day with other fibre artist is a great way for new members to get to know the group. Any questions please contact Lynn Keeler.

Fall 2019 Session

Monday, September 23, 2019. A DAY TO PLAY, LEARN, SHARE AND HAVE FUN

Do you sometimes just need a day away to enjoying creating? We will have a relaxing day, creating, learning, sharing and working on our art. Bring anything fibre art you are working on, finishing, planning, or never seem to get finished. We will share our processes with others and are free to ask questions from participants.

Monday, October 28, 2019. TBD. This date is available to any member who would like to demonstrate, and lead a Play date. Please contact Lynn Keeler.

Monday, November 25, 2019. Frances Taylor, SILK SCARF DYEING

Frances will demonstrate and guide us in dyeing silk scarfs. Great time to make Christmas gifts.

Winter 2020 Session

Monday, January 27, 2020. Loree Tannett. GETTING TO KNOW YOUR SEWING MACHINE.

Do you use your machine to it's fullest ability? Have you studied your manual? Do you use all the options your machine is capable of? Loree will take us through her maintenance procedure. We will learn sewing tips, ideas, encourage each other and create, create, create. We will leave the day knowing our machines.

Monday, March 23, 2020. TBD. This date is available to any member who would like to demonstrate, and lead a Play date. Please contact Lynn Keeler.

Monday, May 25, 2020. Juanita Sauve. "THE MEDIUM IS THE MESSAGE"

Express yourself with free form stitching on hoops. Juanita will bring samples of her work, talk on how she uses art as a protest and ways to finish your hoops for hanging. We will have a fun day getting our message out there.

Facebook Page

The Publicity/Marketing committee would like to thank Anne Warburton for all her efforts in maintaining OOTB's Facebook. A great job in keeping our name and activities out there. We welcome Cathy Haley who will be taking over our Facebook and continuing with our Instagram presences.

Member Profile Karen Samanski:

Aesthete, maker and collector

By Rebecca Dufton



A visit to Karen Samanski's Almonte home reveals an artist dedicated to making and collecting wonderful things. Fibre art, paintings, sculptures, ceramics and books are beautifully arranged around the rooms.

Karen has a keen eye for both beauty and bargains. She's collected works of contemporary fibre artists as

well as vintage textiles. A surprising number of paintings, ceramics and sculptures, as well as fabrics and yarns, were "rescued" from Value Village and the Sally Ann. The mixed media fibre artist says colour and texture are the major influences in her work. Over the years, she's experimented with a wide variety of textile media and finds it difficult to limit herself to just one.

"I have many tentacles," Karen says. I'm currently experimenting with colour combinations for felt and adding hand stitching. Everything I do involves a lot of hand work."



Karen learned knitting and sewing from her grandmother and taught herself how to stitch. Her parents encouraged all of the five children to pursue music, athletics and art. Karen began making clothes for herself by age 12 and continues to do so today.

The world of fibre art expanded dramatically when Karen's husband was posted to Canberra, Australia in 1997.

"Australia was a mecca for textile art and artists. Textile art is valued and appreciated there. You could find everything -- hand-dyed silk fibres for knitting and spinning, variegated wool yarns, the most glorious Italian silks and the best merino wool fabric."

Karen soon discovered discount outlets for luxury fabrics in Sydney's garment district and began making wool capes and wraps to sell at the Kingston Market each Sunday.

Australia's museums, galleries and textile workshops fed her creative spirit.

"I took my first class with Alice Kettle in Australia. It was my first experience with machine embroidery. A class with Pat Langford opened up my world to mixed media textiles using paint and free-motion sewing. I also bought books by Maggie Gray, Cas Holmes, Val Holmes, Jan Beaney and Jean Littlejohn, and many other artistic influencers."

When Karen and her husband returned to Canada in 1999, she'd compiled a list of Australian suppliers and contacts for her new business: KDS Fibres and Textiles. "I fell in love with the beautiful yarns, fabrics and threads I found in Australia. At the time, there was nothing like that available in Canada. I wanted to bring it here."

Karen started with \$2,000 worth of inventory to launch her online sales and trade show venture. Each year, Karen participated in five major trade shows, ordering directly from her Australian suppliers. Until recently, she was a regular vendor at the Fibrefest in Almonte -- participating in the first event over 22 years ago.

"There was nothing else like it at the time. It was great to be around people interested in the same things. The event began as a fundraiser for the Textile Museum and continues to be their number one revenue generator today."

In her business, Karen says, "I bought things that I thought were beautiful. I tried not to focus on 'the latest thing', but customers looked to me for that. I started with hand-dyed knitting yarns, wool and silk fibres. The dye houses in Australia do exceptional work."

A posting to the Middle East in 2005 was another artistic eye-opener. "It was exciting, exotic and visually overwhelming -- the food, the history, the art. I've never forgotten the experience." Karen began collecting and selling embroideries, textiles, art, artifacts and rugs. "I've always collected ethnic embroidery and textiles. The Palestinian embroidery is amazing. So is the work from Damascus and Syria."

Karen bought handicrafts made by Bedouin women and refugees through charity and support organizations. Since ending KDS Fibres and Textiles, Karen continues to sell the beautiful items she has collected.

In addition to her travels, Karen has found inspiration and support for her art as a member of Out of the Box. She joined the group over 22 years ago when it was a small learning group for fibre artists.

"I'd never been in a room with people who liked what I liked and did what I did. My friends didn't do it. I felt a sense of camaraderie. The group acts as a 'jump-start' and can get you motivated."



"I've seen a lot and don't impress easily, but I'm continually impressed by the work I see at Fibre Fling. I think OOTB has done a lot to promote awareness of fibre art. The recent show at the Textile Museum is a great example. We need to do more to get this type of work into mainstream galleries."

Like most artists, Karen struggles to balance practical demands and creative pursuits. She describes herself as a "doer" who loves physical work and has always been a care giver.

"I always dabbled -- I never had much time for creative work. I did what had to be done. The practical always overtakes the creative. Family and household commitments come first. Many women don't get a chance to practice their art until their family obligations have lessened."

It is only in the last few years that Karen has the time to fully embrace her creative side. She bought the home in Almonte four years ago as her studio and retreat. Now that she has time, the challenge is to choose from the constant stream of ideas.

"I always have a series in my head. One thing sparks an idea for something else. As a result, I don't always get things done. I'm currently trying to finish some projects, but my head never shuts down."

Creative Declutter



We at Carriageway Studios are feeling a bit cramped. The materials we bought too much of or never used, the paintings, the pottery we just don't have space for are all weighing us down. So, we are hosting a Creative DeClutter. This unique shopping experience cannot be missed!

Creative DeClutter

Saturday, September 14th, 2019 from 1-3 pm.

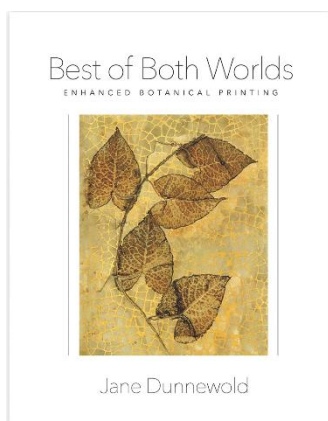
Carriageway Studios

65 Mill Street (by the Barley Mow)

Parking on Mill St or behind the Bank of Montreal

Art pieces, art supplies, weaving supplies, fibres, pottery
and much more.

Book Release and Preorder



I have exciting news! We got the bid from the printer and are ready to embark on the book I've had swimming in my head for months! *The Best of Both Worlds: Enhanced Botanical Printing* is full steam ahead with a November 15 (or earlier) release date!!!

Direct printing with leaves and flowers has a large and dedicated following. The power of steam and heat produces gorgeous, one-of-a-kind prints. Whether you're a seasoned botanical artist or just eager to get started, this highly anticipated guide will be a welcome addition to your library. You can read a full description and preorder below. As soon as the book is a wrap we'll be putting together the online workshop! I love filming new classes!

Jane Dunnewold

World of Threads

We've been working hard these past months, documenting Festival 2018 and getting things ready. We're happy to let you know that we've reached the stage where we can start sharing our images from the last Festival with you.

Moving forward, and leading up to our next Festival, we're planning to release on a regular basis the wonderful artwork that made Festival 2018 such a great success.



If you wish to receive these messages, please go to the <http://www.worldofthreadsfestival.com/contact.html> to subscribe.

The Second Annual Red Barn Quilt Show & Sale

OCTOBER 5 & 6, 2019

10AM - 4PM

FREE PARKING

10461 FRENCH SETTLEMENT RD

MOUNTAIN, ON (just a short drive from Ottawa)

ADMISSION - A NON PERISABLE FOOD ITEM OR
A MONETARY DONATION FOR THE FOOD BANK

A show like no other....

Every item you see is for sale...quilts, wall hangings, totes, table runners ... a perfect place to find a gift for yourself or for that special someone. Enjoy the talents of the creative artisans in this unique country Red Barn setting.

Drop by our 4H Cafe for a delicious soup or scrumptious dessert or support the Dundas Manor (Long term Care) in their fundraising efforts by purchasing a raffle ticket.

For more information redbarnquilts@xplornet.com
Facebook Red Barn Quilts

Phone 613 258-2735

Woven By Hand: Contemporary Canadian Tapestries

Woven By Hand: Contemporary Canadian Tapestries is a collective of recent tapestries designed and woven by 11 Canadian tapestry artists. Each artist is a master in the art and craft of tapestry weaving, having dedicated many decades to creation in this medium and each is recognized internationally for their outstanding artistry,

achievements and commitment to the medium of tapestry. Among the participating artists are winners of some of Canada's most prestigious arts awards. Most of the participating artists will be present at the vernissage. Line Dufour, Thoma Ewen, Murray Gibson, Peter Harris, Barbara Heller, Jane Kidd, Marcel Marois, Paulette Marie Sauve, Suzanne Paquette, Ixchel Suarez, and Linda Wallace curated by Thoma Ewen www.moonrain.ca

Planning Committee

PC Convenor	Sharon Johnson & Nancy Garrard
Education	Lynn Keeler, Nancy Scott, Cheryl Brooks, Kathy Lajeunesse, Luigina Baratto, Patrice Bogall
Secretary	Andrée Faubert
Membership	Val Rochester, Dorothy DeRose
Treasurer	Marilyn White
Web-coordinator	MaryAnne Toonders
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
Library	Rita Rottman
Publicity/Marketing	Lorraine Lacroix
Exhibitions/Shows	Connie ten Bruggenkate, Debbie Boyd-Chisholm, Sheree Bradford-Lea
Contacts:	co-chair@out-of-the-box.org