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Words of Wisdom

“Interesting things happen when the creative impulse is cultivated with curiosity, freedom and intensity.” Saul Bass

Program Lineup 2020

Meetings are usually held at City View United Church, 6 Epworth Ave, Nepean ON K2G 2L5, between Baseline, Clyde/Merivale, and Meadowlands. **Please remember shoes or slippers for our meetings.**

Because the church is closed, there will be no physical meetings until things isolation is over and things open up

Virtual Meeting, June 22, 2020

July's OOTB meeting will be held Monday, July 20, at 7 pm, Details further on in the newsletter.

No August Meeting

Tentative fall schedule

September meeting – Show and Tell via Zoom

Wendy Feldberg, Introduction to natural inks, October 19, 2020

Anne Marie Desaulniers, Trunk Show, November 16, 2020

Francine Mongeon, Importance of Art in daily life, January 18, 2021

July Meeting Protocols

Here's a heads-up about the format for our July Zoom meeting. You must have previously installed the Zoom app on your computer or iPad. Check out zoom.us if you need to download this.

This meeting is experimental for doing live show 'n tell, rather than a slide show from presubmitted photos. Please consider both being present and also sharing one of your fibre art works.

- Have **one** item ready for onscreen show 'n tell display.
- The meeting invitation link will be sent out on the morning of Monday, July 20
- When you join, you will enter the waiting room as a security precaution. The co-host will admit you to the main meeting.
- Before the meeting starts, everybody's microphone will be active (unmuted) so there will be a chat opportunity for all. When the meeting starts, the co-host will mute everyone but the presenter.
- Sharon will review Zoom operational features at the start so you can familiarize yourself with them.
- Show n' tell will proceed via 'raise your hand' icon (to be explained) on first-come, first-serve basis, with likely limit of 15 participants.
- When it's your turn, you will be unmuted and have **2 timed minutes** to describe, explain, give background to your work, etc. Then Q&A will be limited to one question per asker, max of 3 questions. Then co-host will mute you again.
- At meeting's end, all microphones will be unmuted for more chat and also you can use the chat box to send private messages to selected people (will be explained earlier and reviewed if necessary).
- You may press "leave meeting" icon to depart when you're ready or at natural conclusion, host will terminate meeting.

Because Fibre Fling has been cancelled until April 2021, please consider making an individual donation now to support the worthy work with African grannies through the Stephen Lewis Foundation.

stephenlewisfoundation.org Thanks for your support.

Look forward to seeing as many of you talented fibre artists as possible.

Sharon and Nancy

Our Social Media Presence

We have a good following on both Instagram and Facebook. Most of the viewers are people from Ottawa as well as many artists and some businesses.

Two recent posts on Instagram got 57 likes and 385 views and 50 likes and 284 views. For Instagram, those are very respectable numbers and show that there is appreciation for our work.

We would love to see what you are working on and we need content for the social media pages. Please send a jpeg(s) with a brief explanation to: haley.cathy@gmail.com

Our Accounts are
Instagram URL.

<https://www.instagram.com/outoftheboxfibreatists/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/OOTBFibreArtists/>

Virtual Community

OOTB has a vast array of talented members, who have a wide array of skills. You also belong to other groups who are grappling with this isolation. The Planning Committee is looking for ideas from all of you as to how to keep our community active and connected. We are looking for you to volunteer your hidden talents and experience with online meetings. We are particularly looking for ways to do our popular Playdays and Challenges in isolation, but connected

If you have any ideas, please contact Sharon or Nancy or any member of the Education Committee.

If You Can't Beat the Heat, Join It! :D

I'm part way through carving a limestone sheep using hand tools only, as a participant in the 2020 Canadian Stone Carving Festival. It's a virtual festival and virtual auction this year, but it is still the case that all carvings will be auctioned off. Proceeds from the auction will go to Ottawa Innerscity to help street youths.

Festival stone carving officially started July 1st and will end July 16th. The virtual auction will be held July 17th to 19th. Shipping of the carved stones, within reason, will be covered by the Festival; if the winning bidder lives in the Ottawa area we'll likely drop it off.

My finished sheep will have a mixed media twist and include leather and cloth accessories. The theme of the Festival, conceived before Covid, is 'Hindsight is 2020'.



Succinct Festival page, includes a link to the page where progress pictures are being posted: <https://mailchi.mp/barberstonecarving/canadian-stone-carving-festival-2020?e=f205e4412a>

Carver bios:

<https://canadianstonecarvingfestival.com/our-carvers/>

Stay cool all!

Sheree Bradford-Lea

Summer Learning

Connie ten Bruggenkate

Every summer I set myself some surface design learning goals. Aside from sunprinting and ice dyeing. I love eco printing on paper and fabric and dyeing with natural dyes. Eco printing involves stacking layers of paper or fabric treated with a mordant with plants laid between the layers and then steaming them for a few hours so that the plants leave a print. This summer I'm taking a natural dyeing and an eco printing online course with the Wild Dyery in the UK. I've just about finished the natural dyeing course. In the past I dyed fabric with materials found around the house like red cabbage, turmeric and teas. With this course I learned to dye with more formal natural dyes such as madder, weld and indigo to make red, yellow and blue as well as green, orange and purple with the combinations of these three. After we made all the six colours we dipped a sample of each colour in iron solution and got six more colours. Here are my silk sample swatches:



Part of the course was making a natural indigo dye vat which was an interesting process. We dyed some white cotton fabric bound in various patterns. Here are some shibori dyeing results from my indigo dye vat:



I love the learning process and there's always something new to learn! If you have any questions or would like to discuss I would love to hear from you. My email address is connietb@sympatico.ca

OOTB Website Focus on Fibre Links **– 8 Ways to Get Yourself Unstuck**

The isolation required as a result of the pandemic affects each of us in different ways. Maybe you are enjoying the opportunity to have lots of time available to dedicate yourself to your art, or you find it's the opposite, that it's difficult to get up the enthusiasm to get going and actually work on projects and/or be creative in any way. If you fall into the second category maybe the article posted on Valerie Wilson's blog the article "8 Ways to Get Yourself Unstuck" may be of help. Valerie is a quilter and fibre artist often creating portraits based on vintage photos.

The links for this page can be found on the OOTB Resource page
- <http://www.out-of-the-box.org/resources.html>.

MaryAnne

What is this?

Here are guesses for the mystery tools from June. Thanks to Luigina for supplying the pictures and thanks to all the guessers



In the Wild Dyery eco printing course I'm learning to make prints on silk and cotton. I took an excellent eco printing course with Wendy Feldberg in Ottawa a few years ago. I was hooked and I've been printing ever since. My goal this summer was to take things a step further and learn to eco print and use natural dye at the same time. A colour blanket is a strip of fabric soaked in natural dye laid on top of the layer of fabric receiving the print from plant material. When the two are steamed together the result is a clear eco print with strong background colour. It's especially effective on silk. Here are my first madder colour blanket results with rose leaves on habotai and silk noil on the washline:



Tool 1



Tool 2



Tool3

ND

#1 is a needle case

#2 lace-making bobbins

#3 Not sure but the staff seems to have distinct divisions, so maybe a measuring device?

LL

I am guessing that tool 2 are used to do lace. I saw woman using them in Bruges, Belgium. Each thread is attached to one of those and the experienced lacemaker work with those at the speed of light going from right to left and left to right, under and over to create the most amazing and fine lace, renowned around the world.

PG

Tool 3 from last month is probably a seam ripper for sewers.

Tools 3 from this month might be spindles for tatting (lace making).

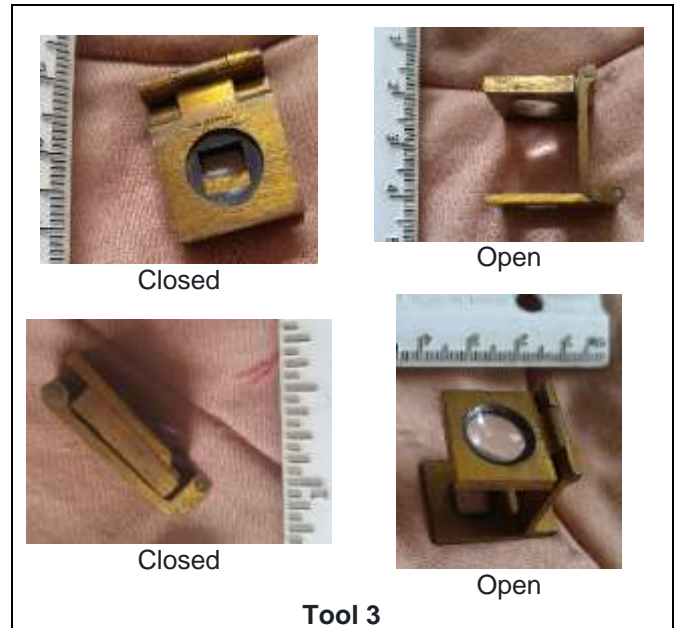
July's Mystery tools



Tool 1



Tool 2



Tool 3

Give it your best guess and let me know, I'll post the result next newsletter

Planning Committee

PC Convenor	Sharon Johnson & Nancy Garrard
Education	Nancy Scott, Kathy Lajeunesse, Lynn Keeler, Patrice Bogall
Secretary	Andrée Faubert
Membership	Val Rochester, Dorothy DeRose
Treasurer	Marilyn White
Web-coordinator	MaryAnne Toonders
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
Facebook/Instagram	Cathy Haley haley.cathy@gmail.com
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	

How to Use Zoom

Preparing for the meeting:

While Zoom is a free and relatively easy platform to use, we highly recommend that you take care of a few things at least a few days before the meeting.

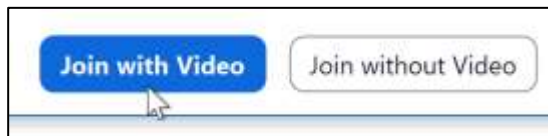
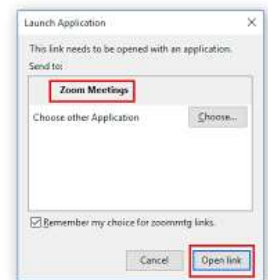
In order to be seen and heard on a Zoom video conference, your computing device must have a functioning camera, microphone and speakers. Please check that you have these on your device and test them to ensure that they are working well. This might also be a good time to check the background that will be seen behind you while you are on the video conference call.

If you haven't used Zoom before, you will need to install the application (see step 2 in the 'Joining a Zoom meeting' instructions below). **YOU DO NOT NEED YOU TO BUY A ZOOM MEMBERSHIP.** We also highly recommend that you practice using their test meeting at zoom.us/test to test your connection and/or familiarize yourself with how to join a Zoom meeting and use the toolbar a few days before June 22nd. If you have problems using Zoom's test meeting, they have instructional text and videos and a link to technical support available on their web site. There are also several very good YouTube videos that you can watch.

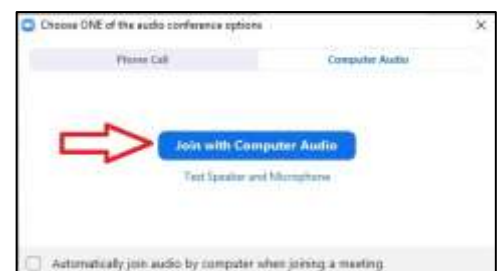
For those of you that have installed and used Zoom already, an update/upgrade was made to the platform in late May. You need to accept the update/upgrade before our meeting, or you may not be able to join the meeting. Go to the platform's web site and it will prompt you to run the upgrade.

Joining a Zoom meeting:

1. 5 to 10 minutes before the OOTB video meeting, log on to your computer and click on the meeting link sent by the host.
2. If you have never installed the Zoom application, you will need to do that to participate in the meeting. To do this, you need to go to the Zoom website at <https://zoom.us/> and click on the 'run' button. It shouldn't take a long time to install, but we highly recommend that you do this a few days before the first meeting.
3. If you have already installed the Zoom application, you will be prompted to click on the 'open link' button. Sometimes there's a short pause before the 'open link' button becomes active, so be patient.
4. You will be put into a 'waiting room' until the host lets you in to the meeting. Admitting only OOTB members on to the call provides extra security.
5. Click on the 'Join with Video' button displayed on the next pop up window. *This is the recommended choice.* If you select 'without video', the other meeting participants will only see a black box with your name on it during the meeting. But they will still be able to hear you. Then again, we all have bad hair days...



6. When prompted, enter your first and last name to be displayed on your video box during the meeting. This will help us to unmute you so you can present your piece or to ask a question.
7. Click on the 'Join with Computer Audio' button on the next pop up window. You will be prompted to test your speaker and microphone levels at this point. I highly recommend that you test these now, especially if you are presenting your art piece to the group.



Mute:



The mute button is

found on the zoom toolbar, usually located at the bottom of your screen. **Important!** Unless you are speaking to the group, please ensure that your audio is muted throughout the meeting. Otherwise, it's hard to hear the speaker over to the sound of papers being shuffled, throats being cleared, phones ringing, etc.

Speaker View vs Gallery View:

Zoom provides several options for what you see while participating in a meeting. These can be changed by clicking on the 'Change View' button on your toolbar, located on the upper right hand part of the screen (on a PC) and sometimes at the bottom of your screen (on an ipad).



Gallery view is the iconic image of how most people use Zoom. It displays up to 25 participants on each screen, with the active speaker highlighted. For meetings with more than 25 participants, tap the right arrow to display the next group of participants on the screen and tap the left arrow to display the previous set.



Speaker view displays a large view of the slide show with a smaller view of the speaker. You can customize the size and location of the size and location of the speaker and slide show screens by dragging the screen frames with your cursor.

Speaker

'Raising Your Hand' in Zoom

Since everyone on the video conference, except the meeting co-hosts and speakers, will be muted, if you would like to ask a question or make a comment about a 'Show and Tell' piece, you will need to 'raise your hand' virtually to let the meeting co-hosts know that you want to speak. When you do this, the system notifies them so they can unmute you.

To 'raise your hand', open the 'Participant Box' found on your bottom toolbar, then click on the '**Raise Hand**' button at the bottom of that box. When you raise your hand, you will see an 'hand' icon next to your name on the Participant list. When its your turn to ask your question or make a comment, the host will unmute you. Don't forget to click the lower button again to 'Lower your Hand' when you have finished or if you didn't intend to raise your hand.



Ending a meeting:

- Click on the 'leave the meeting' button on your screen.
- Log out and/or sign out of Zoom.