



Minutes of KHWS General Meeting, Wednesday, November 12, 2025 KHWS Studio – Tett Centre for Creativity and Learning (TCCL)

Meeting was called to order at 7.00 pm (quorum requirement was met)

1. **Welcome:** Cathy Davidson greeted current members and welcomed new members.

2. **Approval of the Agenda**

Motion: Karen Quattrocchi **Seconded:** Mary Mayo
Carried

3. **Motion to approve the minutes from October 8, 2025 General Meeting**

Motion: Hollie Currie **Seconded:** Cathy Davidson
Carried

4. **Show and Sale**

Cathy Davidson extended heartfelt thanks to all members who contributed their time, energy and talents to the Show and Sale held November 6-9. Cathy said that the dedication and teamwork of those members who contributed brought the event to life, and its success was a direct reflection of those members' efforts. Whether behind the scenes or front and centre, each of those members played a vital role, and the Guild is extremely grateful.

Mary Mayo provided a Summary Report (copy of which is attached to these Minutes and compares results from 2025 with results from 2024 and 2023). The aggregate sale proceeds (net of HST) were \$25,290 – representing an 11% increase over the 2024 Fall Sale proceeds and the same sale proceeds as 2023. The income to KHWS from the Fall Sale is \$4,638 – an increase from 2024 when KHWS netted \$4,104. There were more vendors in 2025 (27 in 2025 vs. 26 in 2024). Three members generated 45% of the proceeds and 43% of the items sold. In total, 712 items were sold compared with 612 items sold in 2024. The average price per item was a little lower than 2024 because there were more small items for sale. In 2025, the average sale price was \$35.52, vs. \$37.22 in 2024 and \$38.26 in 2023.

Barbara Heins commented that the sale went really well. There was a huge range of items for sale, and the atmosphere was great – the music on Saturday added so much to the ambience. There were not as many large items this year – such as blankets and rugs – but there were lots of lower priced items that went well – such as bookmarks that went for under \$20. The recycled plastic bags were very popular (Karen Quattrocchi will be asked if she would like to run a workshop for making these). Overall, Barbara says that our goods are very moderately priced. For example, most tea towels were priced between \$24 and \$30. A new member has commented that in Calgary, these handwoven tea towels sell for \$30-\$34. Others have made similar remarks.

5. **Programme: Guild Challenge 2026: Text to Textile**

Barbara provided a background history for those new members who are unfamiliar with the Guild challenges. She explained that it is part of the history of the Guild to challenge its members to try new things. For this challenge, members can choose a book, magazine, or other reference from the KHWS library and create a project that reflects something that they have learned from the resource. There are lists of library resources on the member's portal – divided into inventories for various categories;

weaving, spinning, knitting etc. Note that there are even DVDs available – Barbara had one that was prepared by a guild in the UK – sheep to coat – following the same challenge taken up by a group 200 hundred years earlier.

Members bring in their finished pieces at the beginning of May, and voting takes place during the May General Meeting. Barbara encourages all members to participate in this challenge. Prizes are awarded for various categories, including, for example: most literal, most creative, best use of colour, best use of technology. There is always a category for new weavers and spinners.

For the programme at this meeting, members were invited to bring a book or other resource from the library that they have found helpful or that inspired them and to discuss the resource at the meeting. A link to a Google Form was provided in the most recent Newsletter. Members are encouraged to complete the form by listing the resource and answering certain questions about their use of the resource, to develop a spread sheet of library resources deemed helpful by the membership.

The following members spoke to (or wrote about) the following specific resources:

- **Carol Wycliffe** – “Eight Shafts – Beyond the Beginning. Personal Approaches to Design from the Complex Weavers Group” by Wanda Jean Shelp and Carolyn Wostenberg. Carol was especially drawn to the entry by Jean Down on page 70. Carol used part of the draft for a scarf and was pleased with the outcome.
- **Alida Moffatt** - “A Handweaver’s Pattern Book by Marguerite P. Davison and “A Weaver’s Book of 8 Shaft Patterns” by Carol Strickler. There are also Facebook groups Marguerite P. Davison in Color/ Strickler in Color”. The first book can be used by any level of weaver. Early on Alida used this book to develop her own designs based on the drafts that looked so appealing. The second book is another classic which she used when exploring more complex designs.
- **Rachel Stewart** - “The Country Diary Book of Crafts” by Annette Mitchell – book was lonely in library – never borrowed. It reminds Rachel of “slow fashion”. She is working on a wall hanging with spun silk, inspired by the book.
- **Cathy Davidson** – “The Spinners Blending Board Bible” by Deborah Held. The book is geared towards beginners. It includes ways to incorporate texture into spinning. Cathy had not used her blending board as much as she could, and this book inspires her to use it more.
- **Nancy Bowman** – “Pure Wool: A Knitter’s Guide to Using Single Breed Yarns” by Sue Blacker and “The Knitter’s Book of Wool” by Clara Parkes. The first book looks at 16 different breeds of sheep. She came to it in a breed study.
- **Janet Noyes** – “Keep Me Warm One Night – Early Handweaving in Eastern Canada” by Harold B. Burnham. The pieces are mostly from Ontario, Quebec and some from the Maritimes. Janet is doing a deep dive into her family’s history in Canada – the book appeals with its maps and photographs. Some of the garments are in the Textile Museum in Toronto.
- **Karen Quattrocchi** – “Learning to Weave” by Deborah Chandler. The coloured photographs were inspirational and the layout is very clear. A good book for backup when you don’t understand how to do something.
- **Andrea Vollenwyder** – “Card Weaving” by Candace Crockett. Takes you the next step past the basics in card weaving.

- **Gabby Marshall** - "Ply Magazine – The Sock Yarn Issue" Gabby is working on making her fibre finer for finer socks and this article is very helpful.

These are just some of their comments. Those of the above who spoke at the meeting were recorded, and a link to the recording will be provided in the upcoming Newsletter. In the case of those who were unable to attend the meeting, their answers to the questions regarding their reasons for choosing a resource are available on the Google Form entitled "KHWS: Text to Textile". The link to this form will be provided in the Newsletter as well.

6. Information Updates/Reports:

- Committee Restructuring and Consolidation:** Cathy Davidson raised this at the October General Meeting, and a report was contained in the minutes of that meeting. Cathy advised the members that this is still a work in progress and that there will be a discussion at the next Board meeting with a report back to the membership at the next General Meeting.
- Strategic Plan Review:** Cathy advised that there are now 5 members who have volunteered to assist with the strategic plan which will encompass the next 5 years. This group will meet before the end of the year.
- Potential Invitations for Presentations for 2025/2026:** Cathy advised that it is hoped that Professor Li can present in December on his research in Burkina Faso. Invitations are out to the following: Beth Showalter (January), Roque Weaver (February or March), Sally Fox (February or March), Beth Abbott (April). The Guild Challenge comprises the May programme.
- Membership:** Norma Rosier reported that there are currently 124 members.
- Treasurer:** Mary Mayo reported that the Finance Committee is up to date with the October financial statements. They plan to get cheques out to the Fall Sale vendors before the month ends.
- Studio and Equipment** – Janet advised that there are 4 more throws/lap blankets to be done on the 100-inch loom. They started at 13 but will probably end at 14. There are still beach blankets being woven on the Waddington Countermarche loom, and the J-Loom is being warped for Harris Tweed to make backpacks.
- Workshops:** Gabby advised that some workshops have been rescheduled to 2026. Gabby invited members who wish to teach a workshop to contact her. Most of the workshops are held from January through April.
- Events:** Nancy advised that the TETT @10 was a great success. A video is available on our website. This will become an annual fundraising event for TETT. Reminder about the holiday sale, December 6 and 7. The items for sale must be available by the 5th or earlier. Nancy is also looking for volunteers to work in the studio on weaving or spinning during the event.
- Archiving Project with Queen's University:** Although Yael Schlick was unable to attend the meeting, she advised that she is in the process of listing all the materials potentially destined for the archives in the Guild's possession. That includes two hard drives from the Threads of History Project. She is working on a table of contents for one of the two hard drives. Once completed, the Guild can decide what should be sent to the archives. During December, Yael will be working to locate and gather material to update current holdings in basic categories, such as monthly and annual meetings. The archives don't hold much after 2010, so she will be looking to fill that gap.
- Fall Show & Sale** – Barbara discussed the sale at the beginning of the meeting, see item 4 above.
- Nominating Committee** – Cathy Davidson spoke to this as Stacey could not attend the meeting. Cathy noted that there are still some gaps including Vice President. There is a vacancy for the Marketing Committee. Nancy Bowman noted that members shouldn't be put off by the label. Most of the marketing done for KHWS is online. Also, the tasks are quite specific, such as getting better signs for sales and getting business cards. Some of the tasks may fall to other committees once the reorganization is complete.

7. **Show and Share:**

Several members showed recent projects:

Andrea Vollenwyder – tablet weave with stags' head – blue with bronze

Brandy Hyndman – two scarves done on rigid heddle loom. One done in one weekend (4-7 pm Friday and 2 hours on Sunday)

Gabby Marshall – lap blanket woven on 100-inch loom. Rainbow colours.

8. **Next meeting:**

December 10, 2025 – 7 pm in the KHWS studio.

9. **Adjournment**

Motion: Nancy Bowman

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.