



Minutes of KHWS General Meeting, Wednesday, February 11, 2026 On Zoom

Meeting was called to order at 7.04 pm (quorum requirement was met)

1. **Welcome:** Cathy Davidson greeted the members.
2. **Approval of the Agenda**
Motion: Nancy Bowman **Seconded:** Dorina Friedli
Carried
3. **Motion to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2026 General Meeting**
Motion: Janet Noyes **Seconded:** Brandy Hyndman
Carried
4. **Memorial Centre Market – request for window coverings**
Cathy advised that there have been some handwoven donations. Cathy will put out a final call for donations to be made by the end of March.
5. **Post Holiday Challenge:-** Several donations of scarves, mittens, and toques have been received and these will be sent to Interval House. Cathy thanked all who had donated.
6. **Programme: Tammy Bast: The Power of the Rigid Heddle Loom**
Cathy introduced Tammy Bast – the creative force behind The Rogue Weaver. Tammy has been weaving on the rigid heddle loom for about a decade. She told the members that she got her first rigid heddle loom when her daughter thought she might be interested in weaving, but didn't use it. Tammy did try it and was hooked. She loves the rigid heddle loom and says that its advantages over the floor loom are that there is so little waste, it is so easy to use and it is so portable. Tammy's presentation on power point covered the following topics:
 - Plain weave – the use of colour and texture.
 - How to use pick up sticks. With the addition of a single pick up stick you can add two sheds.
 - Using 2 or more pick up sticks.
 - String Heddles
 - Finger Manipulated WeavesTammy advised that she does not use software for her designs. She likes to use notebooks with coloured markers. At the request of the members, Tammy showed us how she writes out her patterns – it is quite different from other weaving patterns – without charts to interpret. Asked about suggested patterns for beginners on the rigid heddle loom, she suggested the Cheery Day Tea Towel, My First Tea Towel and My First Log Cabin Tea Towel. Tammy also showed the members her loom and her shuttles. She uses both Handywoman shuttles and a shuttle made by Loomlust (New Brunswick).

7. OHS Workshop Day

Cathy advised that this is planned for Saturday, October 24, 2026. The OHS is planning to rent several rooms at the Tett Centre and would like to reserve the KHWS studio dye station from about 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. The Board is in favour of this. As well, Katherine Romba has agreed to teach a Natural Dye workshop – either 2 half day sessions or one full day.

8. Information Updates/Reports:

a) Tett Representative Report

Nancy Bowman advised that on Monday, February 16 there would be events on each floor of the Tett Centre. KHWS will be in the Rehearsal Hall.

On May 16 and 17, 12 participants will be able to participate in 6 different workshops over the 2 days. Em Harmsen will provide a handweaving activity in the studio on the 17th. If this is successful, it will be offered again.

b) 3P and Strategic Plan Review

This is well underway and should be ready for review by the end of March.

c) Review and Consolidation of Committees:

This is on hold while the Board focuses on 3 P and the strategic plan.

d) Schedule of Presentations for 2025/ 2026 and call for suggestions for Fall 2026/Winter 2027:

Cathy advised that the upcoming presentations are: March 11 – Alicia Boutilier – Textiles (virtual presentation); April 8 – Beth Abbott – Spinning and Knitting for Shawls and Shawl Shaping (in person). Cathy is still looking for suggestions for presentations to be given in the fall of 2026 and winter of 2027. The members are asked to forward suggestions to Cathy.

e) Sales:

Kingston Holiday Market is hosting a one-day spring sale on May 9. Some members have asked if KHWS could have a sale before Mother's Day. Cathy says that any members wishing to organize this should approach Cathy directly.

f) Membership: Norma Rosier reported that there are 3 new members and that she will distribute a new members list.

g) Treasurer: No report at this time.

h) Studio and Equipment – Janet Noyes reported that the studio team is getting ready for the floor loom workshop. They have finished doing inventory. To see what is available for rental – either in studio or for home use – one can visit the website.

i) Workshops: Cathy noted that there is still room in some of the workshops – e.g. the Making a Felted Vessel workshop (March 22) and the Lace Weaves Structures (April 11 and 12).

j) Events

Nancy advised that on February 1st and 8th, KHWS hosted 12 members of the YarnGK Crochet Group to learn about spinning. At least 3 members have signed up for the Rigid Heddle Workshop. Upcoming events noted by Nancy:

- Sheep to Yarn presentation for Queen's International students – headed up by Gabby Marshall

- May 15 Heritage Fair at Queen's – KHWS to present wool processing, spinning and weaving – Janet Noyes to take the lead
- June 6 – Landsdowne Textile Festival – Nancy is looking for volunteers for spinning demonstrations (Nancy noted that this conflicts with the Ontario Handspinning Seminar in Peterborough)
- June 13, 2026 – Gather in the County Fibre and Textile Festival, Picton
- July summer camp at Tett
- August 7-9 Sheep Dog Trials – Grass Creek Park, Kingston – Nancy would like more than 4 teams for the sheep to shawl event. She is looking for volunteers to organize and participate in this event.

k) **Archiving Project with Queen's University:** No update this month

l) **Other:**

- **Report from HGA Guild Development Retreat** – Cathy attended this retreat and will provide a report. The retreat was recorded and is available to watch on the HGA website.
- **Fibre Garden Proposal** – No report at this time.
- **Nominating Committee** – No report at this time.
- **Show and Share via Padlet**

Members shared their recent projects through the Padlet platform:

- Norma Rosier – handspun projects – a blend of many wool samples with silk noils used in a cropped sweater and a blend of crossbred wool and alpaca used in a cardigan
- Carole Wycliffe – tea towels with dog paws – draft #80025 on handweaving.net

9. **Next meeting:**

March 11, 2026 – 7 pm on Zoom.

10. **Adjournment**

Motion: Janet Noyes

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm