

## Guild Exhibit at NEWS 2011

By Jane Perkins

We had a fabulous exhibit at NEWS last summer thanks to lots of people who wove items to represent the State of Rhode Island's Official Symbols. I won't be able to remember them all (they were returned months ago) – but here are some. Mary Sherman wove a table runner that gleamed like the feathers of the *Rhode Island Red fowl*; it was topped with a stuffed red chicken from Mary Calenda. Mary Calenda also wove the most incredible lighthouse, set it on a piece of driftwood with rocks and had a few little houses (also woven) near the lighthouse. Claire Wanebo wove a thick wool rug (from her own sheep's wool) that had all the hues of our state rock, *cumberlandite* and Margie Rattay had a chunk of *cumberlandite* for the display. Claire also had woven a baby blanket that just happened to be in the bright yellow, green and white of *Del's lemonade* (our unofficial state drink). Sylvia Kilgour wove a shimmery shawl with the green gray colors of the mineral *bowenite* and Sally Riannhard wove towels in the *State tartan* of blue and green with white and yellow. I had some small damask pieces from a class I took that depicted *violets* and a tree which I called the “*Red Maple*.” I also had dish towels woven in various shades of creams, tans, and browns representing *coffee milk* – the official state drink. Norma Smayda provided cloth woven by our unofficial state weaver, *Weaver Rose* (William Henry Harrison Rose). Sally DuBois had a tote bag with a wonderful name draft woven on the front. (The bag was in perfect shape and I don't think she has ever used it!!)

Not that I am biased (hah!), but I think we had the best Guild display table at NEWS!

Let's get ready for NEWS 2013 by thinking about books. Books??? Yes, books. Have you woven a cover for your paperbacks? Or your E-reader – Kindle, Nook, Kobo, etc.? Or your IPAD or other tablet? How about a weaving that was **inspired** by a book? Have you read a book that evoked colors or patterns or fabrics? Have you subsequently woven something as a result of that reading? First put your imagination to work, then your fibers so we can have another fabulous Guild exhibit at NEWS!