



Weavers' Bag

President's Message by Patti Pitts

Hello Weavers!

It is hard to believe that May is almost here and all the conferences and festivals are beginning soon. I hope that all of you will get to some conference, class, festival or lesson this spring and summer. There's always something new to learn or a slightly different way of looking at things, when I make the effort to attend one of these many opportunities. One of the closest opportunities will be the 1st Annual Great Basin Fiber Festival over Labor Day weekend in SLC. The reason I mention it so early is that our guild is renting a booth and I hope that all of you will put it on your calendars so that you will be able to participate. My goal is that as a guild, we can weave some cloth on Saturday of the Festival and then waulk it on Sunday. I love the tradition of waulking and I think that the public would enjoy it too. Let me know your thoughts and if you would consider weaving an hour during the Festival and



Patti with her effervescent smile!

then possibly returning for the waulking. I will bring my baby wolf, warped and ready to weave. Maybe we could have two looms to weave and two cloths to waulk.

Wasn't the April program great? I never thought that tapestry would interest me, but Connie certainly opened my eyes to it and I am looking forward to learning more about it in May (cont. on pg 3)

May and June Meeting by Susan Hainsworth

May Meeting:



Ellza Coyle, a member of our Guild who has focused on tapestry weaving, will share with us what she knows about tapestry. She works in the Rio Grande style, which was developed in northern New Mexico, where

Hispanic, Mexican, and Indian techniques were blended together. The style is similar to Navajo tapestry weaving, but has distinctive differences.

She has recently been introduced to Nancy Harvey's work, which has allowed her to incorporate more curves and rounded shapes into her (cont. on pg 3)

MMAWG Schedule for 2005-2006

By Susan Hainsworth.

- May 11, 2006. Tapestry Weaving with Ellza Coyle
- June 10, 2006 Saturday Buttons and beads. Barbara Bentley will present Polymer clays (ex—Femo) that can be used for embellishing your fiber. New time: 3:00 pm—7 pm at Kathy's meadow.
- Registration for the Sharon Alderman opening workshop opens at June meeting. Also registration for Collingwood workshop opens.
- Convergence in Grand Rapids, MI June 25—27 Workshops June 30—July 1 Conference

MMAWG Schedule for 2006 –2007

- July 1—The new year starts for MMAWG—dues are due to treasurer \$30 per year. You must be a member for the September workshop.
- July 1—5, 2006 Complex Weavers in Hope, MI
- July/August—no formal meeting. No newsletter in July. Next newsletter will be mid to late August.
- September 1—3, 2006 Great Basin Fiber Arts Festival at Wheeler Park
- September 16, 2006 Saturday Sharon Alderman will present "Weaving with Snazzy yarns"
- November 11—13. Jason Collingwood will present a workshop in Block-weave.

Other schedule items and dates will be added after the new board gets together.

April Meeting by Susan Hainsworth

.At the April 13, 2006, meeting of the Mary Atwater Weaver's Guild, President Patti Pitts proposed a change to the Guild bylaws. This change would allow the Guild vice-president and secretary to serve for two years if desired. This is already the policy for the other three elected Guild officers. Teri Jo Mauch seconded the motion, which will be voted on by the Guild at the next meeting. The new slate of officers will also be presented at the May meeting. The evening's presentation was made by Connie Denton and Robin Kruppa, who taught a variation on the Theo Moorman tapestry technique. This variation allows the face of the weaving to be covered by fabric, and then a pictorial design to be created in yarn on the fabric surface. Connie and Robin had taken a class in this technique at IWC and had many samples and beautiful tapestries to show. They also showed many fabrics and yarns that can be used in this technique. Their presentation was very inspiring.



Treasurer's Report by Beth Myrer

There is no treasurer's report for this month. Beth fell off a ladder in her garage and did damage to facial bones and her leg. All corrective surgeries have been done but the healing time will be long.

Speedy recovery, Beth!!!.

Announcing the Opening workshop for MMAWG 2006-2007 Year

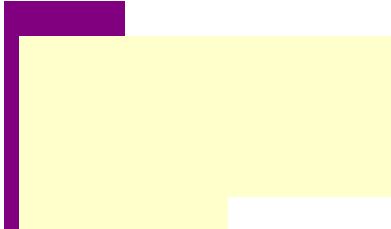
It will be Saturday, September 16, 2006 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. This will include start-up beverages and bagels and registration, a 1 1/2 lunch break and Sharon's presentation called "Weaving with Snazzy Yarns". Sharon will discuss how to weave with specialty yarns, including handspun, so that those snazzy yarns are not lost in the resulting cloth. No looms will be required, but participants can bring yarns they would like the class to discuss. No limit on number of participants but you must be a member in good standing of the guild. Sign-up will begin at the June meeting.

Proposed Change to our By-laws and Elections of Officers

At our May meeting, we will be voting on the proposal to change our by-laws so that the vice-president and the secretary may run for a second year if they so desire.

The slate for our proposed officers for the 2006-2007 year will be announced at the May meeting. The vote will be at

the June meeting.



President's Message, Cont.

from Ellza. Thanks, Connie, for a great introduction to the Moorman technique and its variations.

This weekend, I used one of my handwoven towels from this year's challenge and I found it so pleasant to use. I love the fact that I got towels from other weavers and I especially love the fact that so many of us participated in the towel exchange and the scarf exchange. I keep thinking about other challenges and how I like the motivation of completing projects when they are due. So I'm going to list some of the ideas that others have told me about and that I have had on my own.

Sara Lee had the idea of a challenge just using stash. For many of us this is not necessarily a limitation but it would require some brainwork!!! This would be a fun exchange also. (I'd love more towels!)

While listening to Connie's presentation at the April meeting, I was really impressed with what she was doing with a magazine cover. I couldn't help but think that this would be a fun challenge: give all participants a copy of the same color photograph and ask them to bring back their woven interpretation of it in a year.

May meeting, cont.

have a small demonstration tapestry loom warped for people to try weaving. Feel free to bring any tapestry pieces you are working on, you have completed or you have in your collection of handwovens.

June meeting:

I hope you are planning on the June meeting. It will be

Wouldn't it be fun to see how creative and different we all are?

Another idea I had was to issue a size challenge (for example a twenty inch square) along with a fiber limit (say wool) and then when all the pieces were completed, they could be cut and assembled and embellished and then sold or raffled at the next fiber fair.

I also think that it would be fun to do a team challenge with one of the other guilds (spinning, surface design, embroidery, quilting...) and then have a small exhibit of the finished projects.

Let me know what you think uteaver@comcast.net and hopefully we can get a challenge and or exchange set up for the June meeting so that we have the extra months of summer to work on it.

with Barb Bentley at Kathy's meadow in Park City. We will be working with polymer clays (ex. Fimo) to make buttons and other embellishments to use on your projects. It will be from 3:00 pm to 7 pm (a little later than usual) so plan accordingly. We will still have an evening potluck. More details next month.

Theo Moorman technique
creating pictures with in-
serted fiber or yarns.

- choose a picture you want to create
- Make your own rendition, simplifying and coloring to show the pattern
- Weave the pattern



My apologies to Robyn.
I forgot my camera the
night of the meeting
and wasn't able to get
to her house to take
pictures of her samples
and cloth. You'll see
hers next month.....

Julie, ed.

A LESSON FROM THE GEESE

The following is shared with us by Anita Luvera Mayer. The article appeared in the North Dakota FCL Update in December 1989.

1. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an "uplift" for the bird following, by flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71% more flying range than if each bird flew alone.

LESSON: People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

2. Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the "lifting power" of the birds immediately in front.

LESSON: If we have as much sense as a goose, we will go in formations with those who are headed where we want to go.

3. When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into the formation and another goose flies at the point position.

LESSON: It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks, and sharing leadership -with people, as with geese, interdependent with each other.

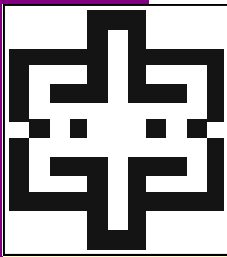
4. The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

LESSON: We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging - not something less helpful.

5. When a goose gets sick, wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow their fellow member down to help and provided protection. They stay with this member of the flock until he or she is either able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own, with another formation or catch up with their own flock.

LESSON: If you have as much sense as the geese, we'll stand by each other like that.

Source: Agricultural Notes, Issue 97 Merle W. Boss,
Deitor, ELCS



Weaver's Bag—Newsletter for MARY MEIGS
ATWATER WEAVERS GUILD Established 1955

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Weavers Guild

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2008 COE Weaving: Judie Eatough, 801-375-5535, judie@eatough.net

Charlene Lind, 801-375-7532, clind@juno.com

To join guild: \$30 to treasurer

To join guild webpage: MMAWG-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Guild Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month

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**Meeting Place
For May:
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