

President's Letter

Hello Weavers!

As I write this, I am reflecting on a summer that has been a real growth experience for me. I had the opportunity to spend three days in the Black Hills of South Dakota with eight of my best friends from my old days in Mitchell. Julie Schwartz and I took off for the hills in her bright red Vette and it was great for my eight "old" friends to get to meet one of my "new" friends. This "birthday" group has been celebrating our friendship for almost twenty years and it was so wonderful to spend time with them again. Friendship is such a precious thing and my wish for all of you would be that all you have friendships to treasure.

I did not go to Convergence or Complex Weaver's as I had originally planned because I wanted to be able to spend time with my sister, Robin, who is battling breast cancer and with my sister-in-law, Ann, who has fought cancer twice in the last eight years. Ann and my brother, Kevin, and Gary and I hiked in Yosemite in June and I was awed by the beauty and power of that lovely park. Gary and I headed on to Cabrol's in Rescue and had a great visit with Barbara and Steve. Barbara is almost settled into her studio and they are both happy to be home again.

I hope that those of you who at-

tended Convergence and or Complex Weavers will share your experiences with those of us who didn't go to Michigan.

This summer, I was lucky to be part of a challenge issued by Jane Dunnewold. Jane dyed 20 yards of silk and sent two yards each to ten people with instructions to create complex cloth by making elegant choices. I was so scared! The silk was lovely the way she dyed it and I was really frightened about destroying it. Once I got started, I just poured all of my worries and fears and love into it. I sent it back to Jane with a wonderful sense of accomplishment and of growth. Now, I just hope that she likes it! I have always believed that one of the best ways to (cont. on pg. 3)



Opening Meeting, September 16, 2006

By Susan Hainsworth

Mary Atwater Weaver's Guild Opening Meeting
Saturday, September 16, 2006, 9:00 a.m. to
4:00 p.m.
South Valley Unitarian Church

"Snazzy Yarns: How to Use Them, Not Lose Them," by Sharon Alderman

Do any of these situations sound familiar?

- You learn to dip dye warps. Now what?
- You ransomed a glorious, fancy yarn. Now what?
- You have mastered spinning and have a luxurious yarn. Now what?

If you recognize yourself, this is the presentation for you. In it Sharon Alderman explores the structures that will allow you to show off your special yarn instead of obliterating it as it is woven. No looms will be required, and there is no limit on the number of participants.

If time permits, near the end of the workshop, Sharon Alderman will discuss possible structures and uses for yarns brought by participants. So if you have one or more special yarns you would like to weave with, bring them to the meeting, and there may be time for Sharon to help you.

Sharon Alderman has been a full-time weaver since 1970. In 1996 she was awarded the Utah Governor's Award in the Arts. She is the author of numerous articles and books on weaving, most recently "Mastering Weave Structures: Transforming Ideas into Great Cloth". Her work has been shown in numerous galleries and exhibitions. She is in demand as a teacher and lecturer and has helped many weavers come to understand the fundamentals of their craft and develop the ability to create beautiful cloth themselves. We are very fortunate that she lives in Salt Lake City and (cont. on pg 3)

2006—2007 Schedule for MMAWG and other fiber related items

- Saturday, September 16, 2006. Sharon Alderman will present "Snazzy Yarns: How to use them, not loose them". Unitarian Church
- Now through September 30, 2006 Salt Lake Art Center (www.slartcenter.org), "Material Culture: The Fine Art of Textile" With special speakers on Wednesdays at 7 pm - September 6, Judy Singer, www.judysinger.ca , September 13, Wendy Huhn, www.wendyhuhn.com, September 20, Lia Cook, www.liacook.com
- Friday, October 13 Karen Gelbard, a fulltime weaver and teacher from Oregon, will present "Design Inspirations drawn from the Oregon coast". Google her name for a bio and some of her work. Unitarian Church
- Saturday, November 11, 2006 Jason Collingwood will present "Shaft Switching". 5:30 pm—7:00 pm Catered simple meal. 7 pm—9 pm Talk.
- Saturday, Sunday, Monday , November 11 - 13, 2006 Jason Collingwood Workshop on Shaft Switching. University Guest House at Fort Douglas. Must be registered for workshop. Patti has specifics.
- Thursday, December 14, 2006 Holiday get-together. Potluck. More specifics later.
- Thursday, January 11, 2007 Deanna Baugh will present "Museum Quality Finishes: Preparing for our guild show".
- Thursday February 8, 2007 Members of the Wasatch Woolpack will present "Focus on Fiber and Spinning—a show of their works"
- March Tentative month for our Guild Show. Cultural Celebration Center, West Valley City. There will be a workshop scheduled in conjunction to the show.
- April—TBD. Dependent upon finalizing when Guild show will be.
- Thursday, May 10, 2007 Judie Eatoough will present an in-depth look at a weave structure, including using computer programs to prepare for the weaving.
- Saturday, June 10, 2007 (Tentative) All day weaving and spinning with presentation topic (TBD). Place TBD also.
- July 19—22, IWC in Durango, CO.



MMAWG sponsored item

Have you ever wanted to be a loom tech???! By Patti Pitts

The Last Sin Eater Fox Productions
Story by Patti Pitts

Filmed on Timpanogos Mountain and in the studio at 500 West and 850 South in Salt Lake City. To be release sometime in 2007

Friday, June 23, 2006

Kristine Bullock of 3 Wishes called me yesterday about getting someone from the guild to assist with weaving on a film being shot in Utah. I told her to have the Props Director call and I would see if someone from the guild could help him.

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

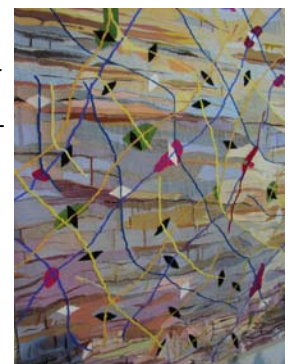
Mark Mullins called me to ask for help in warping the loom and teaching the actress to look like she knew what she was doing. I called Teri Jo Mauch and Deanna Baugh to

see if they could help. Teri Jo was on vacation that week and she agreed to meet me at the studio. Deanna planned to be there and then was unable to get away from work.

Wednesday, June 28, 2006

Teri Jo and I met at the studio also known as the Utah Wool Growers Building and it was typical of the areas that we've seen when movies are being shot in SLC – lots of huge trailers and canopies and people. We were directed inside the darkened building. It was dimly lit—all the windows were covered with black plastic—and there was no air conditioning. The building itself was huge and held seven full sets—three different log cabins, two forest areas, a cave area and an open coral area—along with a full-sized semi-truck, two panel trucks, a pickup truck, bobcats, lifts and room to spare. We met with Mark and he led us to one of the cabins. After setting up additional lighting and a blessed fan, Mark showed us the old loom that he had

rented from the Pioneer Craft House. Our only instruction was to be quiet when we heard someone yell "Action" until they yelled "Cut". Mark offered us snacks and drinks as we removed the old warp. Teri Jo and I started measuring out the new warp of rug-warp cotton while Mark followed our suggestions about repairing the loom. Teri Jo and I have discovered over the last couple of years that we warp well together but it still amazes me how quickly we can get a loom warped together. We were soon starting to weave with five natural-dye-looking colors of Manos de Uruguay singles from 3Wishes



Thursday, June 29, 2006

President's Letter, Cont.

be really alive and vital is to keep challenging myself. This was quite a challenge and I know that I gained much more than just a piece of silk. Jane will be publishing the results returned by each of the participants she chose in her next newsletter.

In July, I had a unique experience thanks to the MMAWG. Kristine from 3Wishes called me one day to ask if someone from the weaver's guild would be interested in helping on a movie set. The set director called me and I was really excited. Teri Jo (kindly helping out while on her vacation) and I headed to the studio to warp an old loom. I have included my journal from these days on the set in a separate article. You just never know what exciting things will happen when you take a job in the guild!

I spent eleven days with my sister, Robin, in July and August. She is part of a clinical trial at Northwestern University for her cancer treatment and it was so good for us to spend time together. I returned home to find that one of my birthday group friends was killed in a car accident. I am so glad that I spent those days with her in the Hills in June. Maybe after all, the friendships that we make and the people that we love are the greatest treasure we have.

In August, we had an MMAWG board meeting and there were lots of wonderful ideas discussed. One that will impact everyone who attends guild meetings is a time change. Starting this fall, we will have our Library and equipment at the Church and the board has decided to have our evening begin at 6:30 pm. This will be our time for a snack, visiting and checking out our amazing library. We will start the meeting at 7pm. We hope that this will give everyone a chance to catch up with friends, have something to eat and get a book or two. The meeting and lesson will then proceed until 9 pm. Everyone will be able to get home at a reasonable hour.

We also have two changes for October and November. As you know, our new year starts Saturday, September 16, with an all day event featuring Sharon Alderman at the SVUUS. In October, Susan was able to schedule Karen Gelbard from Oregon to speak to us. Karen has been a regular at the Utah Arts Festival for the last few years. Due to a scheduling conflict at the church, the meeting date is changed to Friday October 13 at the SVUUS at 6:30 - social time 7:00 -meeting time. In November, we have the Jason Collingwood workshop on the

11th-13th and the board has asked Jason to do a short seminar for the entire guild on shaft switching. This will be on Saturday, November 11 at the University Guest House at Fort Douglas. We will have a catered box lunch meal from 5:30 to 7:00 that evening with his talk from 7:00 to 9:00. This will take the place of our November meeting and we will have more information about this in the next newsletter.

I hope that all of you have had a good summer and are looking forward to a great year of guild meetings – they will be wonderful!

Patti



September Meeting , Cont.

shares her expertise with us.

We will have a potluck lunch from 12 noon to 1:00, so please bring a dish to share. The Guild will provide drinks, plates, plasticware. Also, we will have bagels and coffee and juice available from 8:30 to 9:00 in the morning, so please come to eat breakfast and visit.

At our lunchtime break, we will have a brief Guild business meeting. Please come prepared to pay your \$30 dues for the upcoming year. It's the greatest bargain in town! We look forward to sharing this day of learning and fun with each other.



Jason Collingwood Workshop

We have the pleasure of having Jason Collingwood here for a workshop on Shaft-switching, November 11 - 13.

Jason began weaving in 1987 having learned the craft at his father Peter's studio. He has about 120 rug designs which he produces using the shaft-switching technique. Large

commissions include a series of rugs for a castle in Switzerland and 24 wall-hangings for the Sheraton hotel in Sar-es Salaam, Tanzania. The Tate Gallery purchased one of his rugs for their contemporary arts collection. In 1995 Jason was invited to join the Crafts Council index of selected makers. He has produced a video on rug weaving techniques.

The workshop will be held at the University Guest House at Fort Douglas. At the time of this publication there were 2 spots open. Anyone that has registered for the workshop should plan to have \$100 paid by the October meeting.

More information at the October meeting and in the October newsletter.

Have you ever wanted to be....cont.

I returned to the studio in the morning to weave a little more and to teach the actress, Lisa Lackey, to weave tabby with a stick shuttle. Lisa is a beautiful and delightful woman (about 32) from Australia and she was very popular with all the children on the set. A lot of the techs and grips came in to the cabin to watch us weaving and many were amazed that we were actually making cloth. At one point the director came in to ask some technical questions about how the weaving should look and to get a sense of the camera angles that he wanted to use. After Lisa left to do some rehearsal, I finished the weaving and set up the stick shuttles and skeins of yarn for the next day. Toby (another director) came by to offer snacks and drinks and to ask me to return at 9:00 am on Friday.

Friday, June 30, 2006

I returned at 9:00am to discover that the shoot was scheduled for after lunch (on this movie set, they worked twelve hour days and lunch was at 3:00pm).

Gary and I had an appointment that day so we changed that and I told Toby that I would be back at 3:00pm and gave him my cell number in case he needed me earlier. Toby called at 2:00pm with a shooting schedule change – could I come right over? Of course, I could! As I walked in, the director



greeted me, telling me he was so glad that the loom tech was there! He then offered me snacks and drinks. At 2:30pm, Lisa arrived, dressed in costume and the shoot was ready to proceed. The director wanted the “loom tech” inside the cabin while they were shooting in case something went wrong (In my mind, I tried unsuccessfully to come up with an idea of what could go wrong). After fifteen minutes of shooting the same scene (about five different angles and cameras) we were done. I counted one actress and fourteen others-cameramen, grips, a director, costume designers, lighting people and a loom tech! in this tiny one room cabin.

Lisa invited me to watch another scene that was being shot with her “film” daughter and two other actors. It was odd to watch the action on both the television screen and the actual stage without being able to hear anything. Then it was 3:00 – lunchtime- and everyone was gone for an hour. This is not my lunchtime, however, so I decided to sit on the porch of the cabin and write a little of this journal. I have been encouraged to eat or get something to drink at about every fifteen minute increment (I really don't know how actors and actresses stay so slender with all the encouragement to eat). I had met the caterer earlier in the morning when he handed me a cup of coffee and asked me if I wanted an omelet (made to order on huge outdoor grills) The caterer was originally from New Zealand and worked for many years in Los Angeles and came to Utah for skiing. Several years ago he decided to move to Salt Lake City and he told me that he was so busy catering movie sets here that he hardly got to ski anymore.

As I sat on the porch during lunch, there was one other person inside this huge building. He was riding his bicycle in figure eights. I did mention that this place is huge! As people trickled back in, at least five people asked me if I had eaten lunch and offered snacks from the long tables of food set up inside the building.

This is so funny-as soon as someone yells “Action” there is dead silence and when that person yells “Cut” pandemonium breaks loose and the walls echo with noise-hammers, saws, heavy equipment is moved, voices, phones, walkie-talkies...



Monday, July 3, 2006

I returned in the morning to weave a little more on the loom since the next shooting would indicate that two week time period had taken place. I met the Teacher/Welfare person on the set, and I learned about the children actors. She was not too busy because it was summer and the kids were not missing classes to be in the film. Her job on this film consisted mostly of making sure that the kids did not work too many hours. Children actors can only work 48 hours a week. I thought that this sounded like a lot of work time for children but a lot of it is just being on the set and they aren't actually working.

Lisa arrived in costume and about another fifteen minutes of shooting took place. I left for the day.

Wednesday, July 5, 2006

I returned to complete the weaving for the next time change in the film and as I finished the weaving, Mark came in and told me that I did not have to come back for the filming, the director felt more comfortable about the loom not failing during shooting. Mark took the name of the guild and told me that they would be making a donation to the guild since that was what Teri Jo and I agreed upon (we both want a textile center some day!) and the guild is supposed to get credit for the “loom techs” in the movie credits. This was a lot of fun and I would encourage everyone to take a turn as guild president--- you just never know what exciting things might come your way!

A donation for \$150.00 has been received by the guild. The money will be put in the fiber center fund.

Spring Guild Show by Charlene Lind

Plans for the MMAWG Spring Show are well under way. I will be held at the Cultural Celebration Center in West Valley City. Our schedule lists it as March but that is tentative. The Celebration Center has to finalize some previously contracted show dates.

The Celebration Center is a beautiful place - spacious, bright and cheery. There should be room for each of you to have at least two entries. There will be no restrictions on fiber, size, etc. It will definitely be Utah Fiber Celebrated!

We will have a workshop in conjunction with the show, as we have had in the past. Charlene Lind is the contact for the show. More specifics will be announced in the next newsletter.



National Spinning and Weaving Week, October 2 - 8, 2006 by Mary-Helen Binger

Members of the spinners and weavers guilds will be demonstrating various spinning and weaving techniques again this year in the Atrium space at the SLC downtown library.

If you are interested in joining us to demo

or have questions, please contact Mary-Helen Binger (binger02@msn.com, 801-582-3036) to get scheduled. There are times available for most of the hours the library is open.

This was a very successful joint project

between the spinning and weaving guilds last year. The community showed a lot of interest also. It supports the missions of both groups: increase the awareness of these fiber related crafts to the community.

MMAWG Library Moves to Unitarian Church and Angel Grant Plans by Karna Petuskey

Our Guild library has been moved several times since it was housed in the Weaver's Store, but we hope this new location will be more permanent and more convenient. We have made arrangements to rent space at the church so it will be available at our meetings. Members of MMAWG will also be able to get requested books at other times by special arrangement.

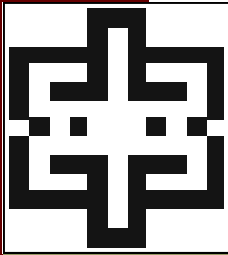
Also, a number of years ago, the State of Utah provided an unusual opportunity to art groups. Each group was allowed to raise a certain amount of money, which would be matched by the state, and then the group would be given the interest from the fund,

called the Utah Public Treasurers' Investment Fund or the Angel Grant. The Mary Meigs Atwater Weavers' Guild took this opportunity and raised \$2500.00, much of it generously contributed by individual Guild members. The amount currently in the fund is 5,830.00, and the Guild receives approximately 250.00 in interest each year. Many of our current members are not aware that the Guild is benefiting from the generous contributions of former and current Guild members. This year, because the library will now become so much more accessible to Guild members, the Guild officers voted to use some of this interest money (from this year and previous years) to buy new books for the

library. If you have ideas for books you would like to see in the library, please contact SaraLee Neill our Librarian/Equipment officer or any Guild officer.

The library books and magazines (and equipment) are listed on our website. We plan to have some new additions available at the September meeting with more to come.

Please note—all pictures are from June picnic or tapestry show at Convergence—by editor.



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

Mary Meigs Atwater Weavers' Guild

Julie Schwartz, editor
1568 S. Red Filly Rd.
Heber, Utah 84032

Phone: 435-654-0746
Fax: 435-654-0746 (call
ahead)
E-mail: jdschwartz@aol.com

WWW.MMAWG.org

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2006-2007 MMAWG Board

President: Patti Pitts, 801-582-0271, utweaver@comcast.net

Vice President: Susan Hainsworth, 801-292-1169, shainsworth@networld.com

Secretary: Deanna Baugh, 801-966-3642, num1weaver@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Beth Myrer, 801-373-3840, betsyboo100@hotmail.com

1407 W. 1100 N., Provo, UT, 84604. To join guild: \$30 to treasurer

Grants: Terri Jo Mauch, 801-244-1728, tmauch@hsc.utah.edu

Rebecca Raybould, 801-272-1344, peterbould@msn.com

Past President: Julie Schwartz, 435-654-0746, jdschwartz@aol.com

Appointed Board members/Committee Chairs

Principle Agent: Susan Hainsworth, 801-292-1169, shainsworth@networld.com

Hospitality: Timmy Burton, 801-582-3550

Library: Sara Lee Neill, 801-829-3703, sneill@xmission.com

Equipment: Sara Lee Neill, 801-829-3703, sneill@xmission.com

Newsletter: Julie Schwartz, 435-654-0746, jdschwartz@aol.com

1568 S. Red Filly Rd., Heber, UT, 84032.

Website: Judie Eatough, 801-375-5535, judie@eatough.net

2007 Guild Show: Charlene Lind, 801-375-7532, clind@juno.com

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

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

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

Guild Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month

Unitarian Church, 6876 S. Highland Dr (2000 E.).

HGA rep: Sara Lee Neill, 801-829-3703, sneill@xmission.com

IWC reps: Colleen Wood, 435-826-6445, colleen77@hotmail.com

Jenny King, 801-731-5234, ewetah@aol.com

Great Basin Fiber Arts Fair

Great Basin Fiber Fair, September 2 and 3
(www.greatbasinfiberartsfair.org) at
Historic Wheeler Farm in SLC. 6351 S.
900 E. 9:00 am—6:00 pm

Animals, fiber, crafts, education, and family
fun all blend together against the grand Utah
mountains.

Shopping, demonstrations, competitions,
animal shows and more!

Visit the Children's Garden, where visitors,
young and old, will be invited to participate in
weaving, spinning and felting. Weavers and
spinners will be on hand to teach basic skills
and give visitors a chance to try the tech-
niques for themselves.



The MMAWG is sponsoring a booth and
weaving wool cloth. Patti has her Baby
Wolf warped and ready to go. We need
you to weave on it to complete the cloth.-
Saturday all day and Sunday morning. At
1:00 pm, Sunday, Anne Carroll Gilmour
will lead us in a waulking with the cloth we
have made and other that she has com-
pleted. Come and join the fun!!!!

If you don't want to work on the loom, then
bring a project you are working on—
spinning, weaving, braiding, knitting, cro-
cheting—whatever.....

SEE YOU at the FAIR!