

The Weaver's Bag

Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah • May 2012 • Vol. 57 No. 8

May Guild Meeting

What: Huck Lace, by Deanna Baugh

When: Thursday, May 10, 6:30 p.m.

Where: South Valley Unitarian Church

Greetings Weavers! Our May meeting will be all about Huck Lace. Deanna Baugh has graciously agreed to lead our discussion on Huck Lace weaves. Deanna is so knowledgeable about weaving in general, and we very grateful to be able to learn from her.

If you have any samples of your own or someone else's weaving, please feel free to bring them to the meeting on May 10. It should prove to be most informative, and who knows? Maybe one of us will weave up a beautiful lace mug rug or placemat for next month's challenge reveal!

Please feel free to bring anything you made in the Fiber Festival workshops to share during Show and Tell so that we can all learn from each other.

Happy weaving, Sonya Campana ❖

President's Message

Cheers to Mimi Rodes and the many ladies of the Guild who helped Mimi put together an instructive and fun-filled Fiber Festival. Joanne Tallarovic earned high marks for sharing weaving tips that she has learned over many years as a weaver. She also shared stories (not always related to weaving) that kept us laughing. A very special thank-you to Joanne for allowing us to enroll all the Guild members who wished to participate, and a big thank-you to Judie Eatough and Deanna Baugh, who helped Joanne with thread repairs and one-on-one instruction. We had over 20 participants instead of the usual limit of 15.

On the last day as one of the particularly difficult warps was finished, a large group of weavers queued up to weave their last sample. Someone suggested we weave this last sample in pairs, with one person to read the treadling sequence while the other wove. In this manner, almost everyone finished, and some made arrangements to go to Sonya's home to weave while Sonya recuperates from knee surgery. The Fiber Festival took place at the Pioneer Craft House, and we had a special surprise there. Bill Hughes, who teaches flute making, donated one of his flutes for a drawing on Sunday and then surprised us again with another drawing at the end of the workshop. The lucky winners were Sonya Campana and Diane Haueter. We learned, we laughed, we shared, and we were all winners.

Looking forward, Deanna Baugh will be teaching us about Huck Lace in May. This is such a fun structure, and Deanna has a lot of experience and knowledge to share with us.

In June we have the exhibit of our Guild challenge and potluck at Susan Hainsworth's home in Centerville. I heard some of the weavers saying that they would use the warp left on their looms to make a placemat, and I know some already have their placemat or mug rug finished. For those of you who have not woven something, you still have five weeks. But, even if you are not able to complete the challenge, please join us for the last fling of the year.

—Jo Stolhand ❖

April Meeting: The 2012 Fiber Festival and Workshops, Workshops, Workshops

The Guild **Fiber Festival 2012** began with a brief business meeting. Charlene Lind (Nominations) announced a slate of officers for the 2012–2013 Guild Year: Jo Stolhand, President; Sonya Campana, Vice President; Lori Webb, Treasurer; Maureen Wilson, Secretary; and Mimi Rodes, Grants Officer. Sound familiar? It should, as these are the present officers, who have agreed to serve another term. However, nominations are still welcome; if you are interested or know someone who might be, contact Charlene Lind. Voting will take place in May. As there will be almost 100% officer turnover in 2013, there is a request to have Jeannette Tregeagle serve as another Vice President in 2012–2013 to provide some carryover.

Mimi Rodes then reviewed the weekend festivities, with Joanne Tallarovic's Make Your Mark workshop Saturday morning, followed by 3 mini workshops: Felted Gossamer Scarves with Bhakti Banning, Metallic Jewelry with Teri Jo Mauch, and Ply-Split Braiding with Judie Eatough.



After a great dinner, **Becky Menlove from the Utah Museum of Natural History** gave the presentation: “Ancient Robes to



Contemporary Baskets, Dinosaurs to Bluebells: The New Natural History Museum.” Becky is a skilled weaver (Past Guild President) and teacher. She started as a professional weaver and worked with the Museum analyzing textiles. She told us a meandering story about the museum and her life and how weaving brought them together and how weaving still connects her to her new surroundings. She

described the process of designing the Natural History Museum of Utah—about how it was set up not to be an encyclopedic collection, but to be about this remarkable place, Utah. It is built on the shores of Lake Bonneville, on the edge of culture and nature. The museum has a central atrium, known

as “the canyon,” with an exhibit of Utah collections that is free and open to the public. Becky described several interdisciplinary galleries, starting with Native Voices at the top, and moving on to others including: sky, life, land, first peoples, Great Salt Lake, among others.

Then Becky moved on to the fiber-related collections.

Becky’s museum career began with research of textiles of the first peoples. Most well known of the collection are the sandals from the

ancient Pueblos, made of yucca cordage and from Indian hemp, both bast fibers. Also of note in the collection is



a knotted net from 1250 BC, chenille yarns made from deer hair, rabbit skin robe, turkey feather robe, coiled, plaited, and twined basketry, and knotless netted lace with fur yarn. The museum collection and site is truly a Utah treasure, and Becky did a great job in bringing it to us.

Saturday morning and it was time for **the first workshop**: “Make Your Mark” with Joanne Tallarovic. Joanne told us about her weaving life and



beautiful pieces in Bhakti's cobweb felting class, and Susan brought by a darling hammered copper heart key fob that she made in Teri Jo's metallic jewelry class. I hope that there will be more works brought to the next Guild meeting, so we can all see.

But the workshops didn't end there. On Sunday morning, we started the **three-day workshop**: "Oh Dry Up" with Joanne, about weaving hand, kitchen, and sauna towels in the Scandinavian style. It was a round-robin workshop, where participants brought looms threaded for rippsmatta, damask, östgötadräll (Margareth kindly demonstrated how to pronounce this one), half huck, and more.

The workshop was overflowing and participants could weave over 20 samples. Joanne was a delightful and gracious teacher. I enjoyed the towel workshop and now have a great collection of color and weave structure samples to stimulate future towel weaving.

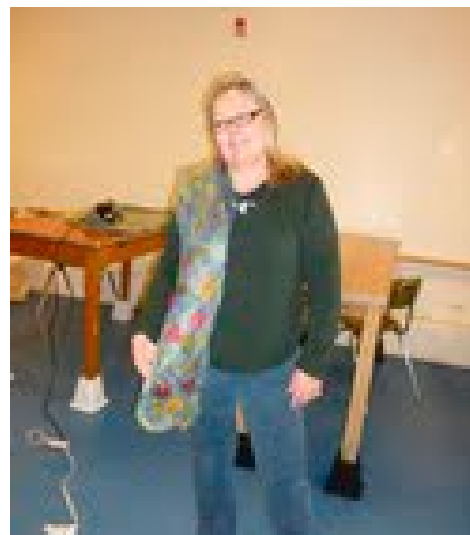
It was a stimulating Fiber Festival with so much information and talent. Mimi, our accomplished Fiber Festival Chairperson, expressed it best:

"Dear Friends and Fellow Guild Members, as Chairperson for the MMAWG 2012 Fiber Festival and workshop, I would like

to recognize and thank the many Guild members who worked with me to organize and make this year's festival such a success and **SO MUCH FUN!!!!!!** Susan and Judie were wonderful mentors and organized the workshops. The mini-workshops were a beehive of activity and productivity thanks to Teri-Jo, Bhakti and Judie. Many thanks to Kathleen and Julie for keeping us well fed!! The **"Oh Dry Up" towel workshop** with Joanne was so much FUN and a GREAT learning experience! There was so much energy, sharing, and

meeting Judie Eatough, who encouraged Joanne to write her book *Rep Weave and Beyond*. She told us about how her rep weave greeting cards became her "bread and butter" item and was the first weaving that she sold in Arizona. She went into production and now has woven 4,286 cards and they are sold worldwide. Joanne demonstrated the whole process from weaving to the finished card. There were three looms threaded for the rep weave cards to weave our own.

After lunch, the group split up to take one of the **mini-workshops**. I took the ply-split braiding and, with Judie's help, braided a sampler key fob. Judie's daughter Beth demonstrated winding the braid cordage, using mercerized cotton. I saw some



friendship among participants throughout the five days. It was just **WONDERFUL!** Thank you all for your participation and contributions to this event! Mimi." ❖



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Guild meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Unitarian Church 6876 South Highland Drive (2000 East)

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Guild Calendar, 2012

May 10, 2012

Huck Lace, by Deanna Baugh

June 16, 2012

Potluck Lunch and Guild Challenge Reveal
Susan Hainsworth's home

Guild Challenge

The Guild board issued a **challenge to the Guild** for the 2011–2012. They asked each member to participate by weaving a placemat or mug rug. There will be a grand show and tell at the Guild meeting in June.

Experienced weavers were asked to design something new, while less experienced weavers were encouraged to use a structure they hadn't tried before. It was suggested that the final projects could be used at the June Guild meeting potluck lunch—so whether you choose to design a mug rug or a placemat might be dependent on whether you want to eat from a mug or a plate! Lori Webb, the Guild treasurer, thought that with the wonderful foods that we have at our potlucks, she might make a tablecloth!

Robin Bromley is in charge of this challenge. ❖

GA Convergence 2012 to be held in Long Beach, California

HGA's **Convergence® 2012 Long Beach** will be held at the Long Beach Convention Center, July 15–21, 2012. The Convergence conference is outstanding for everyone who loves and works in fiber. It is the biennial, international conference sponsored and organized by the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. (HGA), with the help of many dedicated fiber enthusiasts. Convergence features special lectures, workshops, one-day studio classes, super seminars, exhibits, tours, special events, and a commercial vendor hall full of fibers, fiber-related equipment, and an artist market. The classes include novice to advanced instruction in a variety of fiber techniques, including weaving, spinning, dyeing, basketry, felt-making, knitting, garment construction, sewing with handwovens, and more! ❖