

The Weaver's Bag

Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah • January 2015 • Vol. 60 No. 5

January Guild Meeting

What: Opening Reception for “*Inspired Fiber Art*: Contemporary Fiber Art Inspired by Traditional Textiles”

When: Thursday, January 15, 2015, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Where: Utah Cultural Celebration Center, 1355 West 3100 South, West Valley City, UT

Please bring your family and friends to see the opening of the fiber arts show, “Inspired Fiber Art: Contemporary Fiber Art Inspired by Traditional Textiles.” This show is sponsored by the Guild for the benefit of fiber artists throughout the state. The show will feature contemporary fiber art as well as inspiring textiles from throughout the world that have been contributed from Guild members’ collections.

Those who attend the evening will get a first look at the show itself, which is always beautifully hung by the curators at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center. There will be music and refreshments. The judging of the show will occur the day before the show opening, and the awards for the show will be presented at the opening.

This show is part of a wonderful and long-standing Guild tradition, and we appreciate all of those who have created artwork for the show and also helped to organize the show!



GUILD SHOW

The Guild fiber arts show, “Inspired Fiber Art: Contemporary Fiber Art Inspired by Traditional Textiles,” will hang from January 15 to March 4, 2015, at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center, 1355 West 3100 South. Please attend the show opening on January 15 and then invite all your family members and friends to see the show throughout its run.

President's Message

Happy New Year, Weavers!!

2015!

How did the Holidays treat everybody? I know you are all good weavers and am sure Santa had you all on the nice list.

Hopefully everyone has had time to weave up some beautiful textile magic for our upcoming show—*Inspired Fiber Art: Contemporary Fiber Art Inspired by Traditional Textiles*. I can't wait to see the diversity and creativity of the fiber artists who participate. It is so inspiring to see and share creative ideas.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the show opening on January 15th!

Happy weaving, Sonya ♦

Second January (AKA February) Guild Meeting

What: “Swedish Weaving and Swedish Looms,” by Joanne Hall

When: January 22, 2015, 6:30 p.m.

Where: Utah Cultural Celebration Center, 1355 West 3100 South

This January is an unusual time for the Guild. We wanted all of you to attend the show opening, so it is the January Guild meeting. But we also wanted all of you to hear Joanne Hall, a nationally known weaver who will be teaching a three-day workshop on Swedish weaving. And she is here in January! So we are having our February Guild meeting in January. Be sure to come! The meeting will be held in the same room as the workshop, so those who attend the meeting will be able to see the work of the first day of the workshop.



Joanne will start with some basic information about types of Swedish looms, weaving accessories and their vocabulary. She will include information about warping methods commonly used in Sweden. She will talk about how weavers in Sweden learn to weave and about the weaves that are popular among Swedish weavers. She attended the VAV conference last month in Umea, Sweden, and saw many nice exhibits there. She will bring some items of Swedish weaving to show and discuss.

Joanne is an expert in Swedish weaving, and we are very fortunate to have her for this evening, when we can learn so much about the wonderful heritage of Swedish weaving.



Here is Joanne Hall's fiber biography:

- Master's in textile design from the University of Minnesota
- Assistant professor, University of Montana and Cal Poly
- Chair of HGA's certificates of Excellence in Handweaving, 1979–1983
- Instructor of drawloom weaving, tapestry weaving, Swedish weaves, Swedish art weaves, Swedish rag rug weaving, 4-shaft pattern weaves (for example, overshot), band weaving, rigid heddle weaving, warping the loom and beginning weaving
- Over 40 years' experience in teaching weaving classes for guilds, art centers, weaving shops, folk schools, universities, and in my studio. The most recent classes I taught were at Convergence 2014. ♦

Summary of December Guild Meeting

Our Guild Christmas Party was held on December 18, 2014, at Mimi Rodes's beautiful home. Once again, it was a wonderful get-together. It is great to just be there to talk and enjoy each other's company. First of all, many thanks to Mimi for again opening her home to us; it is a wonderful space to share our friendships. The food was very good (even better with the company we were sharing), and we got to have fun exchanging our gifts. Each year we have fun bringing and giving a little of ourselves to our friends. I was amazed when I got home by how late we had stayed—we all had so much fun that it was hard to say good-bye and leave. Thanks to all of you for a wonderful time.

◆ *Deanna Baugh*

Editor's note: A southwest Utah branch of the Guild has been formed and they meet the first Monday of the month at the Washington Branch of the Washington County Library System. Watch for more information on the Yahoo list and in next month's newsletter.



The Bulletin Study Group

The new study group on Mary Atwater and her Shuttle-Craft Bulletins will hold its first meeting on February 12, Thursday, 7 pm at Sonya Campana's house.

Please come with your ideas as to how we will proceed. There are the bulletins to review, and there is the possibility to incorporate weaving for those interested. We can warp a loom and weave samples of the weaving described in the Shuttle-Craft Bulletins. A sample can be put into a binder for our archive. This can also be like a book group, where we read the bulletins and discuss what we learned. In this way Mary can be amongst us again,

and we can learn from her. We find anytime we get together with weaving friends, our brains light up with inspiration, and that is a good thing. We want to keep the premise simple and the goal of learning about weaving above all.

Sonya's address is: 8407 Dynasty Way, Cottonwood Heights. Directions: from North or South: Head toward Big Cottonwood Canyon and get on Wasatch Blvd headed south.

Go past Big Cottonwood, and drive through 2 more lights, turning left onto Kingshill Dr. after 2nd light. You are heading East now.

Take the first right, Dynasty Way and my home is the 4th on the left. Call if you need help finding her house: 801-733-5888.

◆ *Sonya Campana and Maureen Wilson*

Fiber Arts Roundup

ST GEORGE WEAVER'S SHOW

March 6 – 27, 2015

Red Cliffs Gallery Lobby

City Commons, 200 East.

St George, UT.

INTERWEAVE YARN FEST

April 16 to April 19, 2015

Embassy Suites Loveland—Hotel, Spa & Conference Center

4705 Clydesdale Pkwy

Loveland, CO

<http://www.interweaveyarnfest.com/>

INTERMOUNTAIN WEAVER'S

CONFERENCE - Try Something New

July 23-26, 2015,

Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO

Registration begins February 1, 2015 for IWC members

www.intermountainweavers.org

◆ *Jill Dable*

(To contribute to the "Fiber Arts Roundup," send information to Jill Dahle pjdahle@msn.com.)

Spotlight on Karna Petuskey: *Weaving into Retirement*

It was upon her retirement in 1986 when Karna Petuskey picked up the shuttle. Fast forward 28 years, and Karna's living room is graced by a large Louet computer-controlled Dobby loom, and she has wide experience using a large variety of weave structures. At the time she purchased this large and beautiful loom, the major choices were between the AVL and the Louet. A chance observation while at Convergence in Portland OR showed that many people were selling used AVL looms - which just might mean that Louet owners were happier. And from my observations, Karna and her loom have been great partners.

Karna especially likes fine yarns and complex patterns, which she tends to first work out on her Schacht Mighty Wolf, and then programs for her dobby loom. Perhaps her most loved weave structure is twill, and she spent a year developing new twill designs. She has woven yardage which she used to make clothes. Inspiration comes largely from the beautiful photographs in weaving magazines.

Karna views weaving not as a solitary activity, but instead, with the guild, is an important social venue, and Karna has enjoyed the diverse friendships with its many members. She enjoys the guild shows, and believes that the new venue, Utah Cultural Celebration Center, does an effective job of bringing weaving to the public.



◆ *Leslie Sieburth*

10-Minute-a-Day Weaving Challenge for 2015

At our Guild Christmas party, Kathleen McMaster mentioned that she had been impressed by a statement made by Bonnie Tarses. Bonnie told the workshop participants that she tried to weave at least 10 minutes each day. After the workshop, Kathleen accepted this challenge in her own life and found that it has been a great help to her.

So we are giving this challenge to the Guild for 2015. Try weaving (or doing some type of fiber art) for at least 10 minutes each day. We will ask Guild members to share their experiences with this challenge and will report the experiences in the newsletter.

Kathleen McMaster reported that she often felt she didn't have time to weave but was willing to try it for 10 minutes. When she did, she found that this time often expanded, and she definitely got more weaving done.

Leslie Sieburth reported that she accepted the challenge just before Christmas. It coincided with her finally having a room for her loom that is heated and sunny, but she attributes the 10-minutes-a-day to her actually getting half a dishtowel woven over the past week.

I have found that with working full-time and having a busy life, I often have time to start weaving about 9:30 p.m., and that always seems way too late and I am way too tired. I have found that I will sit down for 10 minutes, however, and I am also getting more weaving done.

We will have more reports later, including from Kathleen and Leslie, since I have just summarized what I heard from them. But we wanted all of you to get started if you are interested. Happy weaving in 2015!

◆ *Susan Hainsworth*

The Shuttlecraft Bulletin; Weaving for Curtains

There are 6 Bulletins covered in this article: April 1926 (#19), February 1929 (#53), April 1931, May 1932, March 1933, and July 1934. From the number of issues covering the topic, weaving for draperies and curtains was in demand by the Shuttlecraft Guild members.

There are many reasons for weaving your own curtains and drapes—you can make them to fit your windows exactly. Curtains soften the lines of windows, bring harmony to a room's décor, they block or allow light in as desired, and provide privacy. They do not have to be elaborate; cotton is recommended for an informal look in bedrooms or morning rooms, and linen, silk or rayon for a more formal look in a dining or living room. Mary M. Atwater called weaving curtains one of the most interesting and difficult problems.

Design considerations for curtains include the size and shape of the room and windows, number of windows, the use of the room and limitations of one's loom. Curtains can improve the size and dimension of a window. For casement windows or in a low ceiling room, vertical stripes, with a plain color weft is recommended. For tall narrow windows, a series of horizontal stripes are recommended.

There are two parts considered for window coverings: 1, a thin, or openwork "scrim" curtain over the glass, referred to by Mary as "glass curtains" and 2, side draperies and a valance over the top of heavier material—this a classic combination.

For the glass curtains, recommended yarns are Egyptian cotton (24/3 - 20/2 cotton is described as not strong enough to wear well in a loose weave), or fine linen, such as 40/2 set at 20 epi. Weave structures commonly used for these curtains include twills, gooseye, Bronson and lace weaves—a more recent curtain pattern is in the 2009 Nov/Dec *Handwoven: A Lacy Linen Curtain in Spot Bronson Blocks*. The use of a border or patterns in pickup at the bottom or distributed throughout the length of the window, depending on the window dimensions is an option. Borders may also be formed by beating heavier for a specific width. A wide border with several narrower bands on either side of it is considered attractive. Mary does not recommend overshot on glass curtains, as they are not attractive with the light shining through.

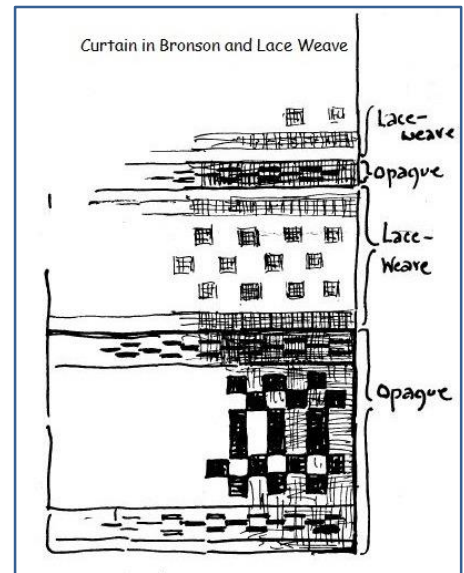
With openwork weave, an even, consistent beat is essential. A strip of paper to measure the window height and the placement and width of borders to get the correct dimensions and to match curtain length is recommended. The weaves for these curtains should be done in the same warp and weft.

For the side draperies and valance, the weave structures are more varied and include plainweave, basketweave, waffle, Bronson, or double weave, with pickup. Several Finnweave diagrams are given in the 1934 issue, for example.

The use of color is recommended here; the number of colors to be used depends on the style of the room furnishings. Other weave structures offered include overshot and Summer and Winter, although Mary believed that the emphasis in the fabric for the drapes should be on color and texture, rather than pattern. Materials recommended for these are also more varied. Examples such as a Shetland warp and rayon weft, or an Egyptian cotton warp and wool pattern weft are given.

In 1931, drafts for Ms and Os, crackle and a description of a series of pickup figures done in bands, using bright colors, described as in the "Spanish Manner" are given.

The most intriguing design to me is one recommended for windows on the street or that come almost to the floor, in the 1933 issue. It is in Bronson and lace weaves, recommended for linen and has an opaque section in the lower portion and a more open lace weave nearer the top - shown here.



And to close, here is an image of a woven side drape that offers another design option.



Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah

January 2015 • Vol. 60 No. 5

Newsletter editors:

Susan Hainsworth, susanhainsworth@gmail.com; Maureen Wilson, maureenmwilson@yahoo.com

The newsletter is published 10 times a year. Any articles or information should be to the editor by the 5th of the month.

To join the Guild send \$30.00 (\$35.00 to receive the newsletter by mail) to Kira Masnica, 1042 Fort Union Blvd. #138, Midvale, UT 84047, kira.spins@gmail.com, 801-671-4496

To join the Guild e-mail list:
MMAWG-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Guild web page: www.mmawg.org

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

2014–2015 MMAWG Board

President: Sonya Campana, 801-733-5888, sonyacampana@yahoo.com

Vice President: Jeanette Tregeagle, knitweave@yahoo.com, 801-568-9645

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

Treasurer: Kira Masnica, kira.spins@gmail.com, 801-671-4496

Hospitality: Ping Chang, 801-545-0512, wanping801@gmail.com

Librarian: Joanne Spotten, 487-9133, joanne@thecomputer.com

Equipment Contact: Jane Roos, 801-572-9997, gracey1849@yahoo.com

Grants Officers: Mimi Rodes, mimirodes@comcast.net; Susan Hainsworth (Guild Show 2015 Chair), susanhainsworth@gmail.com

Newsletter: Susan Hainsworth, 801-292-1169, susanhainsworth@gmail.com; Maureen Wilson, 801-485-5241, maureenmwilson@yahoo.com

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

HGA representative: Jill Dahle, 801-446-5581, pjdahle@msn.com

Guild Calendar 2014–2015

January 15, 2015

Guild Show Opening Reception:
Inspired by Fiber Art

*Note, this is the 3rd Thursday

January 22, 2015

Swedish Weaving and Swedish Looms

Joanne Hall

*Note, this date takes the place of our February meeting, so we can all learn from Joanne Hall

January 22-24, 2015

The Swedish Art Weaves Workshop

Joanne Hall

March 12, 2015

Sources of Inspiration for Tapestry Weaving

Mimi Rodes

April 9, 2015

Triangle Weaving--Loom and Process

Julie Schwartz

May 14, 2015

To be announced

June 2015

Date to be announced