



The Weaver's Bag

Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah • September 2021 • Vol. 69, No. 7

September Guild Meeting

What: Opening Reception Our Guild Show: Fabulous Fibers!

When: Thursday, September 2, 2021, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Where: Utah Cultural Celebration Center (UCCC), 1355 West, 3100 South, WVC

Our Guild show is here! We have been having a lovely summer break, and suddenly the time for submitting items for our Guild show is here! Here are the important dates:

Friday, August 27, noon–6:00 p.m.: Deliver your items to UCCC

Thursday, September 2, 6:00–8:00 p.m.: Opening reception (Guild meeting)

September 2–October 13: Exhibit open

Thursday, October 14, noon–6:00 p.m.: Pick up your items at UCCC

We hope that all of you will submit one or more items to our show. You can submit up to three items. The purpose of this show is to celebrate the creativity and strength of Utah Fiber Artists over the difficult past two years.

The opening reception is a wonderful time to bring family and friends to see our beautiful exhibit. The exhibit awards will be presented, beginning at 6:45, and we will hear from nationally known weaver Robyn Spady, who will present “Great Weave Structures for Color and Texture Using Novelty Yarns.” Robyn said: *“Perhaps you have walked into a yarn shop and been fascinated with stunning novelty yarns. But as a weaver, it can be a challenge to figure out how to incorporate them into weaving projects in order to showcase the yarns without breaking the bank. Or you may have been inspired by the fabric used for a Chanel-style jacket that was created by Linton Tweed, Lesage, or Bernat Klein and would like to understand how these fabrics were created so you can design and weave your own. In this program, I will share a small collection of weave structures that let you take advantage of fun and exciting yarns and to add new dimensions to your weaving.”*

Everything you need to know about the show is in the document **“Fabulous Fibers! A Celebration of Utah Fiber Art!”** Please read the document carefully. We look forward to seeing all of you on August 7 and September 2!

Awards and Awards Criteria for the Guild Show

- **Functional:** 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and honorable mention
- **Non-Functional:** 1st, 2nd, 3rd place and honorable mention
- **Judge's Choice:** All techniques are eligible for this award
- **Lorna Taylor Award:** Awarded to a member of MMAWG. The piece should show excellence in execution and innovation in design
- **Craftsmanship Award:** Awarded to a piece that is not an original design or was made in a workshop

Handweavers Guild of America: "Must be limited to a work of handweaving, spinning, basketry, dyeing or related fiber arts. Must embody unique interpretation; demonstrate a fresh, individual approach, and express personal creativity. Must demonstrate excellence in technical skills."

Complex Weavers Award: "This award is to be given for excellence in weaving a piece original in both design and execution with complex interlacement of threads and fibers beyond plain weave. Workshop samples, kits or pieces woven under supervision or taken from published works are not eligible.

Surface Design Award of Excellence: "Surface design encompasses the coloring, patterning and structuring of fiber and fabric. This involves the creative exploration of processes such as dyeing, painting, printing, stitching, embellishing, quilting, weaving, knitting, felting and paper making. Award winners should demonstrate creativity, originality, innovation and excellence of design and technique."

American Tapestry Alliance Award of Excellence: "Each tapestry to be considered must meet Ata's definition of tapestry: a handwoven, weft-faced fabric with discontinuous weft. The juror may select the most deserving tapestry based on excellence in design, creative imagery, technical execution and the useage of color."

President's Message

This is my first message as president of the Mary Atwater Weaver's Guild. I hope the next two years will be a learning and growing experience, not just for me, but for the whole Guild. Our first meeting will be on September 2, the opening of the Fabulous Fibers show. I hope everyone is planning on entering something in the show. More variety in the entries makes for a better show and an exhibit of which we can be proud. Robyn Spady will also be giving a talk that I am sure we will all enjoy.

In conjunction with the show, Robyn Spady will also be conducting a workshop on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, September 2, 3, and 4. If you haven't already, I hope you will sign up as this is a wonderful opportunity to learn from a nationally known weaving teacher.

I hope you are excited about the coming year, and I look forward to seeing you on Thursday, September 2, at 6:00, at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center (UCCC), 1355 West, 3100 South, WVC. *Beth Myrer, Guild President*

Getting to Know Ping Chang



Talking with Ping Chang is like talking to a friend you didn't know you had. She is warm and kind and finds happiness in the simple things. She is a behind the scenes kind of person – always helping, always doing something good. Ping has been serving as the membership secretary for the MMAWG.

Born in Malaysia, she wanted to see the world. She met and married her husband in London, England, where they both attended college. Ping majored in math and worked as a computer programmer for an insurance company for about 10 years. And then Ping found a full-time job raising her two sons. Her husband's work brought them to the United States. They lived in Maryland and California before finding their "spot" in Sandy, Utah. They have lived here for over 20 years and plan to stay.

How did Ping find her way into the weaving world? Her really good friend and neighbor, Mimi Rodes. With a smile in her voice, Ping said, "Mimi is always encouraging me and even challenging me to start a new project or to try new things. Good friends enrich your life!" Ping has many wonderful friends. She has walking buddies, book club friends, and she enjoys serving alongside her neighbor as they cook and serve food at a woman's shelter once a month. "Good friends raise your level of living."

What advice would Ping give to a beginner weaver or to someone who is struggling with a project? "Don't give up. Keep it simple. There are so many materials and a wonderful assortment of colors to experiment with and to enjoy. It feels so good to create something and even better to finish it. There is so much available on the internet to help you learn. Use the tools available to you."

When Ping is not weaving, she enjoys hiking, traveling, and even fly fishing with her husband. "It's good for you to keep busy," Ping says. "It's important to keep your mind active." Her fingers have been busy finishing up some towels she plans to enter into the Fiber Show in September. She said, "Good or bad, it feels good to accomplish something."

If you get a chance to visit with Ping, you will find a new friend in her.

Shuttle-Craft Bulletin: Weaving for Jacket and Dress Fabrics

In the Bulletins of September 1933 and July 1939, Mary Meigs Atwater wrote on weaving fabric for outerwear and dresses. Her favorite fabric for these was, as in earlier bulletins, a wool fabric woven in a twill draft with tweed yarns. There is some confusion on the use of the terms “tweed” and “twill,” and there is a website that gives a discussion on what is a tweed and the different types: <https://www.masterclass.com/articles/what-is-tweed#8-different-types-of-tweed>

The photo here shows a few examples of the resulting tweed fabric from the website.



1930s jacket and coat styles may be seen at the website: <https://vintagedancer.com/1930s/1930s-coats-and-jackets-history/> From this website: “Sport coats had very wide menswear style notch or peak lapel collars that could be flipped up and around the neck. Fabrics could be textured, in suiting patterns, or big prints like plaid. Tweed, checks, and herringbone in brown, tan, or blue were common.”

Mary wrote that a jacket fabric that is satisfactory would be a good tweed, woven firmly in a coarse yarn with a firm twist to withstand wear. She recommended that the fabric have similar materials in the warp and weft.

In 1939, Mary called the weaving of fabric for clothing a more serious kind of weaving, with an accent on texture rather than pattern. She wrote that it shows a manner of “coming of age” in the craft. She considered the weaving of a handsome tweed to be a real handicraft.

She described a 2/2 twill as the best of all weaves for outerwear fabric. A 3/1 twill, called double by Mary, or a fancy twill would also work. She referred to an 8-shaft fancy twill from the 1928 *Shuttle-Craft Book on American Hand Weaving* and provided a 4-shaft version in the Bulletin. Both are shown here.

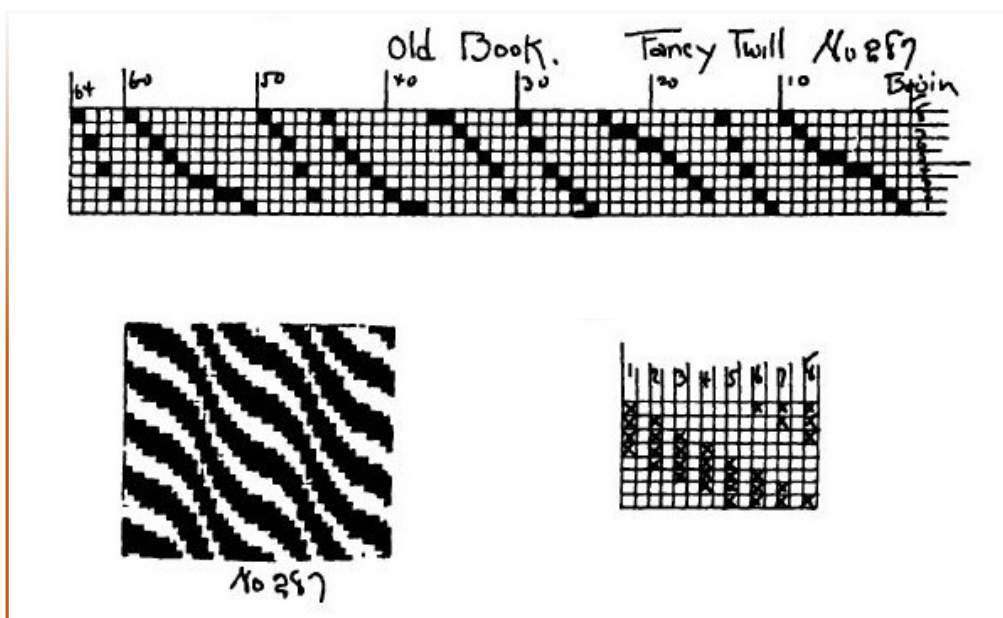


Figure 1. Eight Shaft Fancy Twill

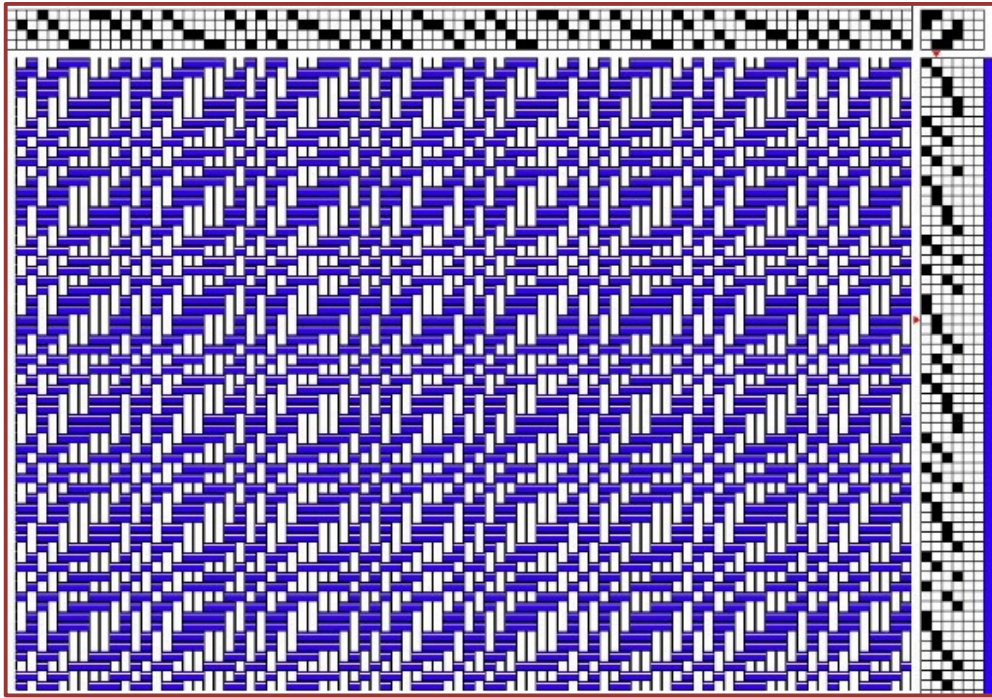


Figure 2. Four Shaft Fancy Twill

The *Recipe Book Series IV on Fabrics for Clothing, No. 3*, provides Recipes for Suiting and Coat-Fabrics. See (a) for Men's Oxford Suiting, done in both plain weave and twill. The tie-up provided shows three forms of twill. The 2/2 twill is recommended for suit material.

To weave a pleasing *texture*, Mary wrote that a weaver must work with suitable materials and an even beat. She described fabric samples she had woven in a four shaft 2/2 twill and herringbone. Her samples were woven in two or more colors, like those listed below.

She thought that color combinations required serious study and sampling, and suggested using two colors, one in the warp and another in the weft. She recommended a few color combinations. For example, blues with tans or brown; or green and tan. She considered the reds to be the "most dangerous, all the way from hot orange to reddish purple."

She provided a recipe for a warp dressing for wool as well as fabric finishing instructions. Special handling for making up a jacket or dress with handwoven fabric was noted and further described in a later bulletin.

One of the yarns she described as being appropriate for a fine wool dress fabric was the Bernat Afghan yarn set at 15 epi. A modern equivalent might be an 8/2 wool (2,240 yard per pound, 4520 mg/kg) with a suggested sett: 12/15/20 epi for plain weave/twill/ lace, according to the Handwoven Master Yarn Chart. *Maureen Wilson*

Meetings of the Southwest Utah Weaving Branch

Monday, 13 Sep 2021, 5:30 pm, St George Library

Program: Discuss the day weaving group. Discuss outreach. We are thinking of easy outreach programs of no more than 2 hours at club houses or facilities. Examples are Brio and assisted living facilities.

Little looms. Bring what little looms you have. Tapestry, card, inkle, frames, etc. We will discuss what can be done with them and how they are set up.

Monday, 18 Oct 2021, 5:30 pm, St George Library

Program: Warping variegated yarns. There are many beautiful variegated yarns for sale, but when you use them, you just get a muddy mess because the colors do not line up like you would like them to. We will talk about how to warp in way that the colors will line up.

Monday, 8 Nov 2021, 5:30 pm, St George Library

Program: A round robin discussion of loom maintenance, and weaving/spinning tips and tricks.

Monday, 13 Dec 2021, 5:30 pm, Member residence

Program: Holiday get together and sale. You can bring any weaving and spinning items that you would like to sell or give away.

Monday, 10 Jan 2022, 5:30 pm, St George Library

TBD

Monday, 14 Feb 2022, 5:30 pm, St George Library

Program: Theo Moorman technique, Linda Murie. We are looking at designing a cartoon for tapestry, Theo Moorman technique, a program on spinning, and one or more dyeing mini-workshops.

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study Group



The 2021-2022 Guild year meeting schedule for the Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study group is presented below. The next meeting will be in October. The date will be provided soon. The topic of discussion will be Summer and Winter weave, and the patterns Lisbon Star and Young Ladies' Delight, from the February and August 1928 bulletins.

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletin study group meets to discuss Mary Atwater's work from the Shuttle-Craft Bulletins. This is an informal group – if you have not participated, try a meeting. The meetings often begin with a reading from Mary Meigs Atwater's biography.

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Bulletins</i>	<i>Meeting Date</i>
Summer & Winter Weave Lisbon Star Young Ladies Delight	Feb 1928 Aug 1928	Oct 2021
Christmas weaving	Oct 1928 Oct 1929	Dec 2021*
Selling handwoven Crackle weave	Nov 1928 June 1930 May 1929	Feb 2022*
Twill	April 1929 Oct 1936	Apr 2022
Camp weaving Portable Weaving	June 1929 June 1936	June 2022
Modern art & weaving Design	July 1929 August 1946	Aug 2022

*online zoom meeting planned

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published 10 times a year.

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Guild Calendar 2021–2022

September 2–October 13, 2021

Guild Biannual Fiber Show

October 14

Guild Challenge: Plaids
by Juliette Lanvers

November 11

Use Up Your Weaving Scraps:
Making Greeting Cards
by Catherine Marchant

December 9

Christmas Party
Mimi Rodes's Home

January 13, 2022 (Zoom)

Anni Albers: Life and Legacy
by Cameron Taylor-Brown

February 10, 2022 (Zoom)

Suzie Ballenger, HGA President

March 10, 2022

Complementary Plain Weave
by Ann Edington Adams

April 14, 2022

Bow Weaving
by Catherine Marchant

May 12, 2022

Challenge Reveal and ReNee's Rugs
by Juliette Lanvers and ReNee Page

June 11, 2022

Potluck and Dye Vat
by Maureen Wilson and Jill Dahle