



# The Weaver's Bag

Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah • October 2021 • Vol. 69, No. 8

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## October Guild Meeting

**What:** Guild Challenge: Plaids

**When:** Thursday, October 14, 2021, 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** South Valley Unitarian Church, 6876 South Highland Drive (2000 East)



During the October meeting, we will be kicking off our weaving challenge for the 2021–2022 Guild year.

This year we have chosen “plaids” as the theme of our Challenge. I am very enthusiastic about plaids, because although they are very technically simple, they pack a punch in design! For our presentation I will be sharing some resources that can help you plan your project and some inspirations to get you started.

I am looking for plaid samples for the meeting—specifically I would love to have classic commercial plaid designs brought to the meeting, such as a Burberry plaid (if anyone is very lucky lucky to have one), Scottish tartans, and other plaids that are all-time classics. I thank you in advance for your help! *Juliette Lanvers*

### REMEMBER

**To pay Guild dues!** You can pay at the Guild meeting, on the Guild website, or by sending the dues to Ping Chang. It's a bargain at \$30 a year!

**To pick up your Guild show items!** You can pick them up on October 13 between noon and 6:00 p.m. at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center.

## President's Message

Dear Weavers:

I hope everyone got a chance to see the Fiber Exhibit at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center and be inspired by the wonderful pieces that were displayed. It is so nice to be associated with creative people and have the opportunity to learn and grow with each other.

One piece of information you might want to know – Charlene Lind has donated her yarns and threads to the Guild. At the meeting on October 14, these things will be available with a donation made to the Guild. So bring some money and a bag to take advantage of this opportunity.

It will be great to see everyone at the first in-person meeting in a while on October 14. I hope to see you then. *Beth Myrer, Guild President*

## Robyn Spady's Three-Day Workshop

Julie Guiney was kind enough to send pictures of a number of hand towels she has completed since Robyn Spady's recent three-day workshop on parallel threading. Aren't they lovely? The workshop was a great success, as evidenced by these lovely towels. Thanks so much, Julie!



## Mary Atwater Weaver's Guild Holiday Sale



This year the Mary Meigs Atwater Weavers Guild is having a Holiday Sale. This will be an opportunity for Guild members to sell things they make. The Guild has had two previous holiday sales, and lots of things have sold. Here are the particulars of this year's sale.

*Dates:* Friday, November 19, 2021      5:00-8:00  
Saturday, November 20, 2021    10:00-5:00  
*Place:* South Valley Unitarian Church

Members will be able to sell anything handmade by them, except food. Examples include handwoven, knitted, or crocheted clothing, table linens, wall art, Christmas ornaments, jewelry, or rugs.

The Guild will collect 20% of the selling price as commission. The Guild will pay for postcards and signs for advertising and FaceBook advertising, bank costs for credit cards, bags, receipt books.

Guild members will need to provide props: mannequins, hat stands, racks, an artificial Christmas tree, black tablecloths or sheets, lights, or any item that would make an interesting display.

Each item for sale will need to have an inventory tag with the maker's initials, price, and inventory number. This tag will be removed when the item is sold.

Sellers must provide the Guild with an inventory sheet listing a description of each item for sale, along with its price and inventory number.

We will need the help of the whole Guild in order to have a successful sale. There will be a sign-up sheet at the October meeting. Tasks will include setting up; helping at the sales table; greeting customers, answering questions and monitoring sale items; and clean-up.

We are working on assembling an e-mail list for advertising. I would appreciate each member sending me names with e-mail addresses so that we can grow our list. Also, cards will be available at the October meeting so members can mail them themselves, if they want.

Questions and suggestions are welcome. Call or e-mail me: Catherine Marchant, 801.216.4722 (don't text) or [fibernbeads@gmail.com](mailto:fibernbeads@gmail.com)

## Getting to Know Sunny Cate



Sunny and her kids in the car because they spend so much time there!

“All things bright and beautiful.” That sums up a delightful conversation I had with one of the newest members of our Guild. Sunny Cate lives up to her name with sunshine in her voice and her enthusiasm for art in all of its woven forms. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Three-Dimensional Design from Weber State University. She was fortunate to learn her foundation of weaving from Moe Masters. She took her art to heart and turned it around to bless others as Sunny found herself teaching weaving at the same university for four years until the program was dissolved.



When I asked her about her first experience with weaving, this wonderful story came to life. When Sunny was about eight years old, she found a plastic toy loom with a semblance of two harnesses. She asked her parents if she could get it, but they told her “No.” So she went to her Grandpa and begged him to buy the loom for her. He said “Yes” and made her promise to weave some things for him – which she did. She also has fond memories of a summer camp in Denver on a historical farm. One day, she was able to work in the house and actually got to weave on a real loom. Sunny thought that was a very cool experience.

Sunny did some weaving at home after college but soon found herself changing diapers and taking care of her growing family. As her youngest is now in second grade, she is starting to get her looms out again. But first she must put up her garden and finish all the yard

work around their home in Fruit Heights. They are right in the middle of a “long remodel,” which happily includes plans for a studio for Sunny. “I have all kinds of dreams of things I want to do.”

After being away from weaving for a long time, Sunny wondered if she would remember how to do it. But as she started to warp she said, “It felt like swimming. You just jump back in the pool and you just start swimming.” She loves the act of weaving as it includes your whole body. And when your body is in rhythm with the loom, then your mind can relax. “It is so therapeutic.”

Sunny has also found great joy and freedom in Modern Quilting. She went from working with traditional quilting patterns to creating a quilt without a pattern, letting her feelings and inspiration take over and guide her work. The freedom she has found in modern quilting is also spilling over into her weaving. She doesn’t feel tethered to technique or pressure to prove anything to anyone. She has gained confidence to trust her artistic nature and create whatever comes to mind. She would love to weave a closet full of yardage of different fabrics and then make a modern quilt with that handwoven fabric. Merging those two worlds would be “a dream come true.”

Sunny is so excited to be a part of the MMAWG. And we are equally excited to have her join us. She hopes that someday she will have more time to sit and weave. Don’t we all!

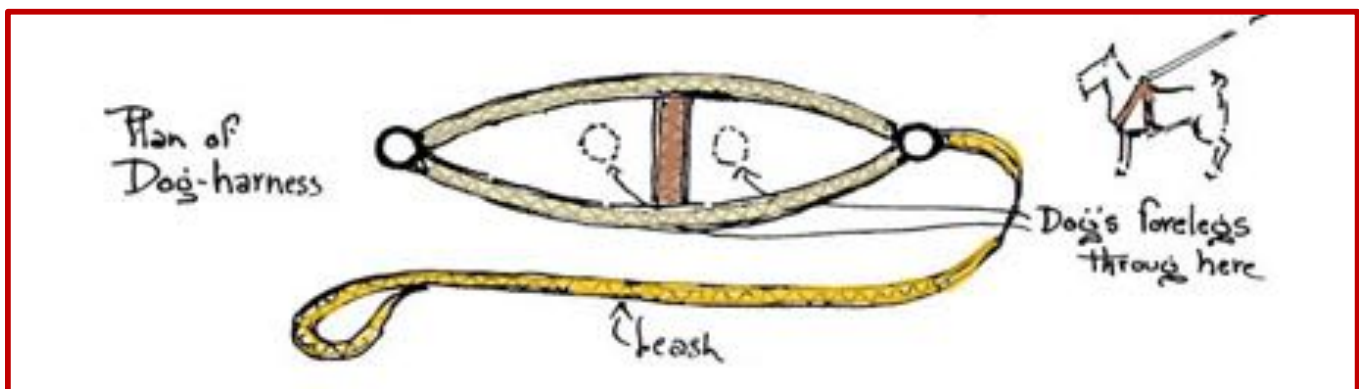
## Shuttle-Craft Bulletin: Weaving for Christmas

The email message this morning from a yarn store I subscribe to was "Make Time for Making Holiday Gifts!" And, indeed, the October Shuttle-Craft Bulletin was designated by Mary Meigs Atwater as the Christmas issue. In 1938 and 1939 Mary once again wrote on it being time to weave for Christmas (think "Guild Sale"). She called the question of what an acceptable handwoven gift might be the "yearly problem," and she advised that the workmanship should be "of the best." (*To find the 1938 and 1939 October issues, go to the [mmaawg.org](http://mmaawg.org) and click on the Bulletins tab.*)

Mary included these ideas for gifts in the 1938 October issue: articles of personal use and adornment, including a scarf, bag, band for the hair, necktie, wristwatch ribbon, linens, couch blankets, or afghans. Style forecasters of the day were saying that bags would be very large and plain. Runners were woven of cellophane, which I find to be very odd. Mary confessed that her own taste was for all linen. She gave elaborate instructions to weave upholstery for a hassock in Finnweave. Not what I would consider a small and easily woven gift.

Mary named 1939 as the year of elaborate belts and girdles. Mary wrote to consider them as something that would be "attractive, novel, useful and not too long or complicated in the making" – the perfect gift. Belt-making techniques she described included braiding, particularly Osage braiding, a finger weaving technique. Mary wrote an article on the Osage Braid that may be found on online

[https://www2.cs.arizona.edu/patterns/weaving/articles/tw\\_4\\_2-08.pdf](https://www2.cs.arizona.edu/patterns/weaving/articles/tw_4_2-08.pdf) with detailed instructions to weave a chevron patterned belt. Other techniques named were cardweaving and inkle weaving. See some examples above from my collection, mostly inkle belts, with a cardwoven belt in the middle, obtained from the Great Basin Fiber Arts Fair years ago. Below is a clever use of handwoven belt material used to devise a dog harness; see her illustration below. This was designed by Mary's daughter Betty.



Mary included several diagrams of Navajo and/or Mexican style weaving belts, based on 31 pairs of pattern material. These were given with tie-up for 4-shaft looms and designs for pick-up. It appears to be a pebble weave and some of the figures are charming. She also provided a draft for an afghan in 4 colors that appears very similar to the Recipe for a Stole – pattern from an ancient Colonial Shawl in the Recipe Book (Series IV No. 14).

Back to the 1938 issue, Mary also wrote about a weaving meeting held at the Drifting Snow Ranch in Montana. It was too small to be called a conference. She listed several looms and some weaving equipment available: a Bernat 6-shaft loom, Mr. Gilmore with 2 of his looms, a 4-shaft and a large 8-shaft, as well as a knife-edged shuttle for band weaving, a Cromaine Crafts 8-shaft loom equipped with an electric winder for warp spools and bobbins, and a Gardener warp tensioner. Much weaving was done: Finnweave, 3-harness weaving (Krokragd), leno, Bronson weave, Crackle, Summer and Winter, etc., etc. The hit of the meeting was a Guatemalan weave, woven in geometric designs and a “stylized conflagration.” The meeting included trips through Glacier Park, fishing, and pack trips, although Mary confessed the activities cut into weaving time. Sounds lovely to me. *Maureen Wilson*

## **Meetings of the Southwest Utah Weaving Branch**

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

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**

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

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

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**

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 on December 1. The location will be provided soon. The date will be provided soon. The topic of discussion will be Christmas weaving from the October 1928 and 1929 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>
<b>Christmas weaving</b>	Oct 1928 Oct 1929	Dec 2021
<b>Selling handwoven Crackle weave</b>	Nov 1928 June 1930 May 1929	Feb 2022*
<b>Twill</b>	April 1929 Oct 1936	Apr 2022
<b>Camp weaving Portable Weaving</b>	June 1929 June 1936	June 2022
<b>Modern art &amp; weaving Design</b>	July 1929 August 1946	Aug 2022

\*Zoom meeting planned



# Guild Calendar 2021-2022

## Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah

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**Newsletter editor:** Susan Hainsworth,  
susanhainsworth@gmail.com. The newsletter is  
published 10 times a year.

To join the Guild send \$30.00 (\$35.00 to  
receive the newsletter by mail) to Ping Chang,  
7 Courtside Lane, Sandy, UT 84092

To join the Guild e-mail list, contact Susan  
Hainsworth, susanhainsworth@gmail.com

**Guild website:** mmawg.org

### 2021-2022 MMAWG Board

**President:** Beth Myrer, 801-602-8612,  
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480-8079, ludmillalily@outlook.com

**Guild Challenge Coordinator:** Juliette Lanvers,  
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**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