



The Weaver's Bag

Mary Meigs Atwater Weaver's Guild of Utah • December 2022 • Vol. 70, No. 10

December Guild Meeting

What: Guild Christmas Party, Potluck Meal, and Gift Exchange

When: Thursday, December 12, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

Where: South Valley Unitarian Church, 6876 Highland Drive, basement

Be sure to attend on our annual Guild Christmas party. On Thursday, December 8, we will meet at for a potluck dinner, fiber gift exchange, and the chance to enjoy the spirit of the season with our friends. This evening is always a treasured experience for those who attend.



Please plan to bring a potluck dish for our dinner. Turkey and gravy and drinks will be provided, so please bring anything that will contribute to our holiday dinner. Please bring a serving utensil for your food.

Please also bring a wrapped fiber-related gift that can be exchanged with another Guild member. This can be anything that another fiber person will enjoy. Also bring your show and tell. It's always fun to spend a Christmas evening with each other!



President's Message

Dear Weavers:

Life is about how we react to the things that happen to us, and that is when we show what we are made of. My husband found this poem that I wanted to share.

I hope that everyone has a wonderful Christmas and a good New Year.

My life is but a weaving
Between my Lord and me;
I cannot choose the colors
He worketh steadily.

Ofttimes He weaveth sorrow;
And I in foolish pride,
Forget that He sees the upper
And I the underside.

Not till the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly,
Shall God unroll the canvas
And explain the reason why.

The dark threads are as needful
In the Weaver's skillful hand,
As the threads of gold and silver
In the pattern He has planned.

Beth Myrer, Guild President

Guild Holiday Sale

The Guild Holiday Sale was a great success. We brought in over \$13,000. After payments to the artists, taxes, and expenses, we were over \$1,400 in the black. Thanks so much to all who helped with the sale, made things to sell, and spent money!! We are grateful to Catherine Marchant, who encouraged us several years ago to try having a Guild sale and who has done so much to make this important event possible each year.



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The Guild Show Is Coming Next Year!

We are so fortunate to be able to hold our Guild shows at the Utah Cultural Celebration Center every other year. The gallery there is very beautiful, and the textiles, which come from many textile artists, are hung beautifully. You can start preparing now for the show we will have next year.

The exhibit will hang from **September 7** through **October 18, 2023**. The drop-off date for artwork will be September 2, and the pickup date will be October 19.

November Guild Meeting



The December Guild Meeting was closely related to both a “hive” and a “Hive Mind” in several ways. Before the meeting began, many members were buzzing around examining the many boxes of weaving supplies and magazines that were very generously donated by the family of Karna Petuskey. Karna had many beautiful colors and fibers that will help bolster the stash and creativity of our members.

The lesson was expertly put together and presented by Leslie Sieburth through a PowerPoint presentation. Leslie had sent out a request to our membership for tips and hints that have helped them improve their weaving and solve problems and challenges. The “Hive Mind” of everyone contributing and working together to help all of us was fabulous! Leslie’s presentation was wonderful!

So many have requested a copy of her presentation that it has been posted to the mmawg.org website. Just click on “Resources” and scroll to the bottom of the page. The categories for the presentation are:



1. Design and inspiration
2. Design and warp calculations
3. Measuring your warp
4. Dressing the loom
5. Weaving – fixing errors, threading, throwing the shuttle, etc.
6. Removing your cloth from the loom
7. Finishing

Intermountain Weaver's Conference (IWC) Is Coming!



The Intermountain Weaver's Conference is fast approaching! IWC will be held July 27-30, 2023, at Utah State University in Logan. Registration will start on February 1, 2023.

The IWC board is looking for volunteers to help us during the day on Wednesday, July 26, and Thursday, July 27. We will need help setting up the classrooms and getting the registration packets ready for everyone. If you can help on one or both days, even for a few hours, please contact Nancy at registration@intermountainweavers.org. We would really appreciate your help – we want to make this a great conference!

There will be a newsletter emails in January that will contain all the information about the conference. This will give you all the information you need to sign up for the conference. The email will be sent out to all IWC members, so please join us! Keep in mind that you need to be an IWC member to sign up for the classes. All memberships end on January 1 of the year. Many of your memberships will expire at the end of 2022. You should receive an email reminding you to renew. In order to join us, use this web page:

<https://www.intermountainweavers.org/join-us>

Nancy Crowley

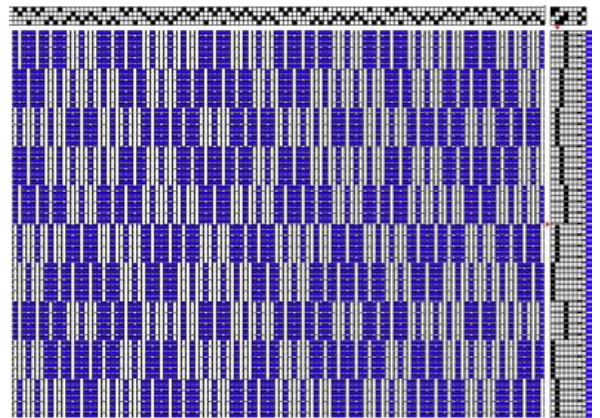
Shuttle-Craft Bulletins: Crackle Weave

The Shuttle-Craft Bulletins covered in this article are from August 1936 and July 1938. These Bulletins are on the Guild website under the Bulletins Tab.

Mary Meigs Atwater first introduced the Crackle Weave to the Shuttle-Craft Guild in the October 1927 Bulletin, in a Scandinavian linen weave. She named it Crackle in the November 1928 issue, as noted by Susan Wilson in her book *Weave Classic Crackle & More*, published by Schiffer Press in 2011. It is a block weave, so it is suitable for this year's challenge.

In the August 1936 Bulletin, Mary referred to an out-of-print pamphlet she had produced on the Crackle Weave and wrote that she would provide the same information there.

The Crackle Weave produces a firm fabric and short floats that may be repeated to large blocks, so it was an appropriate weave for more modern designs, with larger motifs. Crackle is generally, but not always, woven with pattern shots alternating with tabby A and B.



Four drafts were included in the 1936 issue. Draft A is shown here. Mary wrote that this draft would be suitable for linens and curtains as it has the same figures on the front and back of the fabric. It also lends itself to be woven in what Mary called the "Italian Manner," with a 2/2 twill tie-up, adjusted for a rising shed, shown in the tables here:

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | A | B |
| ○ | ○ | | | | ○ |
| ○ | | | ○ | ○ | |
| | | ○ | ○ | | ○ |
| | ○ | ○ | | ○ | |

| Pattern Shed | Background Shed 1 | Background Shed 2 |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 3-4, treadle 1 | 2-3, treadle 4 | 1-4, treadle 2 |
| 1-4, treadle 2 | 3-4, treadle 1 | 1-2, treadle 3 |
| 1-2, treadle 3 | 1-4, treadle 2 | 2-3, treadle 4 |
| 2-3, treadle 4 | 1-2, treadle 3 | 3-4, treadle 1 |

Background sheds alternate with the pattern shed, instead of tabby A and B. This treadling produces a thick, soft fabric, suitable for blankets or maybe bath towels. The two background shots may be in different colors. Mary wrote that a tabby could be added after each pair of pattern and background shots for a firmer fabric. The drawdown is on the next page, with two background colors, but no tabby. There is not a big difference from the version above but there should be in the finished cloth.

Draft b is presented in two versions, one conventional and the other considered to be of more modern design, again with the same figure on both sides. It was described as a good threading for linens, bags, and small articles.

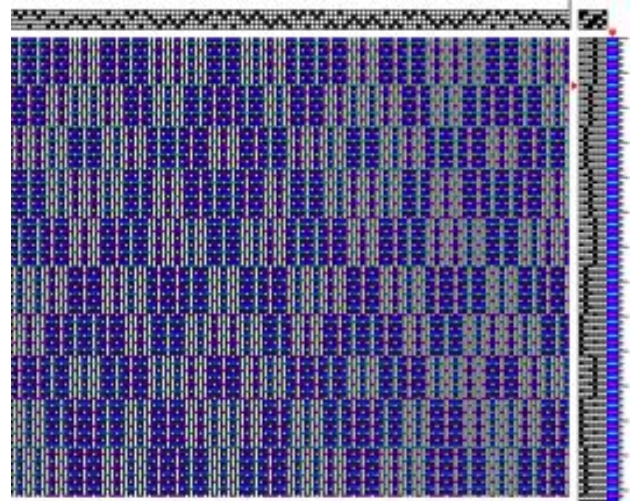
Draft c was designed for a rug, or a portion of it might be used for linens with an interesting diagonal pattern. Finally, draft d is a classic colonial pattern: double snowball, good for coverlets, runners, or pillow tops.

In the July 1938 issue, Mary provided new crackle weave designs:

- Cat's Cradle, an allover pattern with two treadling methods, good for upholstery
- Dark Reflections, designed for drapery, but also useful for table runners or rugs
- Clematis Vine, a more colonial design good for coverlets or tablecloths.

Mary also provided three summer and winter profile drafts that may be woven as crackle. She repeated the Italian manner treadling instructions and wrote that the method is good for bags, pillow tops and wall hangings. Toweling may be woven with a soft strand cotton. She included a notice at the end for a low-cost weaving material called loopers or yarn links, waste from the stocking mills. It appears that sock loopers have been with us for a long time!

Maureen Wilson



The Shuttle-Craft Bulletin Study Group



The 2022-2023 Guild year meeting schedule for the Shuttle-Craft Bulletin study group is presented below. The next meeting will be on December 12 at Mimi Rodes's home, starting at 7:00 p.m. The topic of discussion will be Scandinavian Weaving and Swedish Rugs, from the September 1929 and November 1934 bulletins. We will have our second annual optional Christmas ornament exchange at the meeting as well.

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> |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Scandinavian Weaving Swedish Rugs | September 1929 November 1934 | Dec 12, 2022 |
| Weaving for Pleasure Weaving for Profit | November 1929 January 1930 | Feb 2023 |
| Color and Color Combinations | December 1929 | Apr 2023 |
| Coverlets | February 1930 January 1931 | Jun 2023 |
| Pile and Velvet Weaving | March 1930 April 1930 | Aug 2023 |

Guild Calendar 2022-2023

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 Barbara Allen, 524 North 100 East, Centerville, UT 84014, or go to the Guild website, where you can pay using Paypal

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

Guild website: mmawg.org

2021-2022 MMAWG Board

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Guild Challenge Coordinator: Judie Eatough, 801-375-5535, judie@eatough.net

December 8

Guild Holiday Potluck and Gift Exchange

January 12

Kris Bruland: Handweaving.net
(Zoom meeting)

February 9

Ellen Hess: Weaving Lace
(Zoom meeting)

March 9

Samples by Mary Atwater and Flossie Goodwin; Mary Atwater's Birthday Party by ReNee Page and Susan Hainsworth

April 13

Finishing Weaving
by Mimi Rodes, Deanna Baugh, Jeanette Tregeagle

May 11

Challenge Exchange: Finished Weaving and Drafts